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Christopher Tells Russia: NATO Plans To Expand

Vote Presents Choice Of New Partnership Or Isolation, He Says

By Steven Erlanger
New York Times Service

PRAGUE — Secretary of State Warren M. Christopher warned Russians on Wednesday that in the forthcoming June presidential elections they faced a choice of inclusion in the institutions of the West or of self-isolation.

In a speech before the foreign ministers of 12 Central and East European countries, including the three Baltic nations, Mr. Christopher strongly reaffirmed the American commitment to the expansion of NATO no matter what happened in Russia.

"NATO has made a commitment to take in new members and it must not and will not keep the democracies in the waiting room forever," Mr. Christopher said. "NATO enlargement is on track and it will happen."

Speaking in the 17th-century Cerin Palace of the Czech Foreign Ministry, with the colorful flags, some new and some redesigned, of the 12 newly independent nations behind him, Mr. Christopher said that the United States viewed it as critical that "Russia take its rightful place in the new Europe."

Nowhere, he said, "is it more important that democracy take root."

But "Russia's reform efforts are under strain and success is far from assured," while there is new uncertainty about Russia's future relationship with its neighbors.

"Last week," Mr. Christopher said, "we were confronted with a dark vision of that future when the Russian Duma voted in favor of reconstituting the Soviet Union," a vote dominated by the Communists and ultranationalists and assailed by President Boris N. Yeltsin.

"Russia must not isolate itself," Mr. Christopher warned. "Its integration, like that of Central Europe, will depend on the choices its leaders and its people make. Integration depends upon their adherence to international norms at home and abroad."

Senior American officials deny that they mean to isolate Russia by NATO's enlargement, no matter what judgments Russians themselves make as their former East European colonies rush to join the alliance that the Soviet Union painted as its aggressive enemy during the Cold War.

"Central Europe's integration will neither determine, nor be determined, by events in Russia," Mr. Christopher said. "But we have an equal interest in integrating, not isolating, Russia."

That is a double message to Moscow, Mr. Christopher's next stop, his aides say, stressing that NATO expansion will have its own timetable and will not be subject to a Russian veto. But it is undeniable, some officials concede, that events in Russia may have a significant, if not necessarily determinative, effect on the pace and style of NATO enlargement.

Senior officials insisted that Russians would have to make their own choices: both in the June presidential elections

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J. David Ake/Agence France-Presse

John M. Deutch, the director of central intelligence, telling Congress on Wednesday that a black market in Russian nuclear material posed a serious threat and that Baghdad may still be concealing biological arms.

UN Fears Iraq Hides More Lethal Arms

Investigators Suspect a Cache Of Scuds With Germ Warheads

By R. Jeffrey Smith
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — A United Nations commission suspects that Iraq has hidden from 6 to 16 ballistic missiles capable of being fired at Israel, Kuwait, or Saudi Arabia with warheads containing lethal germ weapons, United Nations and American said Wednesday.

UN investigators believe the medium-range missiles are probably being stored on Iraqi trucks and shuttled between military installations under the command of a government organization whose personnel are determined to keep them hidden, according to Rolf Ekeus, who is chairman of the UN Special Commission on Iraq.

Mr. Ekeus, testifying in the U.S. Senate, said the UN commission's new concern about these missiles helped explain its recent confrontations with the Iraqi government, including five attempts last week by Iraqi authorities to deny UN investigators' access to government buildings suspected of harboring launchers or other evidence related to the missiles.

Those confrontations provoked two censures of Iraq by the president of the UN Security Council, including a statement on Tuesday criticizing the "unacceptable" delays faced by commission personnel in inspecting three facilities near Baghdad that are controlled by the Iraqi Republican Guard.

Mr. Ekeus told the Senate subcommittee on permanent investigations Wednesday that "we have a problem" because Iraq insists it has no such missiles and seems determined to prevent their destruction despite its pledge to comply with a 1991 UN Security Council resolution prohibiting any Iraqi weapons of mass destruction.

Explaining the context for the commission's concerns, Mr. Ekeus noted that Iraq has so far given up an estimated $75 billion in oil revenues due to economic sanctions that will be lifted only when it fully accounts for all the missiles and other weapons it is suspected of developing or acquiring.

Iraq's aim in forgoing this immense revenue has apparently been to protect its remaining weapons, Mr. Ekeus said. "This raises the significance ... of the missing pieces enormously," he said

The missiles at issue are Scuds that Iraq purchased from the Soviet Union

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Pentagon Expects Trouble in Bosnia When NATO Pulls Out

By Philip Shenon
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — The Pentagon has offered its grimmest assessment to date of the prospects for peace in Bosnia, warning that without an enormous international aid program to rebuild its economy and political institutions the country will probably fragment after the withdrawal of NATO peacekeeping troops late this year.

The assessment for the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence was prepared by the Pentagon's senior intelligence analyst, Lieutenant General Patrick M. Hughes, and it could signal an effort by the Defense Department to distance itself from blame if the civil war resumes shortly after the NATO withdrawal.

General Hughes, the director of the Defense Intelligence Agency, offered reassuring words in his report for U.S. troops stationed in Bosnia, suggesting that forces of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization face no organized military threat. If the war resumes, he said, it will not be until after the allied peacekeepers have pulled out.

But the report, dated Feb. 22, offered no similar solace for the people of Bosnia. General Hughes said the prospects for the existence of "a viable, unitary Bosnia" beyond the life of the NATO deployment were "dim" without a large international program to revive Bosnia's war-shattered economy.

If his assessment is accurate, the peace effort in Bosnia could well be doomed, since the civilian reconstruction effort there is barely under way, its economy and physical infrastructure — roads, water and electricity lines, telephones — still in ruins. The last American soldiers are scheduled to withdraw from Bosnia in December.

General Hughes said the strategic goals of the warring factions in the region had not fundamentally changed since the days of the civil war and that tensions among them would probably grow in the months leading up to the NATO pullout.

If that is true, the Clinton administration might come under intense pressure from its allies not to withdraw U.S. troops by the end of December — a deadline that the administration insists it will hold to.

The Pentagon assessment also implicitly questions basic elements of the U.S.-brokered Dayton peace agreement, which laid out what critics in Congress called unrealistic deadlines for political and economic reconstruction in Bosnia and for the

See BOSNIA, Page 6

Perot, on Radio Show, Sounds Like a Candidate

By Brian Knowlton
International Herald Tribune

WASHINGTON — Even as Senator Bob Dole unofficially clinched the Republican Party's presidential nomination, the Texas billionaire Ross Perot roiled the political picture, dropping the strongest hint yet that he intends to mount an independent run for the presidency.

National surveys suggest that a Perot candidacy would gravely, perhaps fatally, damage Mr. Dole's campaign.

"Let's assume the dust clears," Mr. Perot said on a Texas radio station, "and that's what the members of this party want. Then certainly, I would give it everything I have."

Mr. Perot's comment left Mr. Dole with no time to rest on the laurels of yet another Tuesday sweep of state primaries, this time in the Midwest. (Page 3)

The senator's victories in Michigan, Illinois, Ohio and Wisconsin gave him four more than the 996 delegate votes needed for the nomination.

But even Mr. Dole acknowledged that a Perot candidacy could attract wavering Republicans and large numbers of the independents he needs to win.

"It does concern me," Mr. Dole said on ABC-TV. "He helps Bill Clinton."

The Kansas senator said Mr. Perot should think twice about running.

"Ross, we are the reform party," Mr. Dole said, almost imploringly, on CNN. "Every issue you've raised we have had or will have a vote on it. Ross, what else do you want?"

Mr. Dole said that the Republicans,

See PEROT, Page 6

U.S. Approves Arms Sales to Taiwan

By Bradley Graham
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — The United States has approved the sale to Taiwan of Stinger surface-to-air missiles, an advanced targeting and navigation system for fighter jets and a package of electronic warfare devices, but has denied a perennial request for new submarines to counter China's improved naval capabilities.

The action came during the annual meeting of U.S. and Taiwanese officials to review Taiwan's defense needs.

With Chinese forces conducting war games in waters near Taiwan in advance of Taiwan's first democratic presidential election, the Clinton administration's decision to follow through with the previously scheduled talks and authorize the arms sales affirmed a long-standing U.S. commitment to bolster Taiwan's defenses. At the same time, eager to avoid further inflaming relations with Beijing, administration officials sought to portray the approval for additional sales as nothing out of the ordinary.

"I would regard this as a fairly modest list," one senior U.S. official said. "While some may have expected that, because of the current situation over there we would have given Taiwan lots of things with bells and whistles, this is not out of the historical pattern."

In a related development, the House overwhelmingly approved a nonbinding measure reaffirming its commitment to help defend Taiwan against Chinese aggression. The vote, 369 to 14, capped a debate in which the Clinton administration was criticized for its policy toward China as much as the Beijing government was condemned for its military maneuvers in the Taiwan Strait. The measure goes to the Senate.

U.S. military sales to Taiwan have averaged about $600 million annually in recent years, down a bit from the 1980s but still covering a broad range of defense needs.

Jerome Delay/The Associated Press

REPRISAL — Israeli soldiers keeping residents of the West Bank village of Al Fawar away Wednesday as they blew up the home of a suicide bomber. And another bomber killed an Israeli soldier. Page 6.

AGENDA

Menendezes Found Guilty

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A jury convicted Lyle and Erik Menendez of first-degree murder Wednesday for the 1989 slayings of their parents in their Beverly Hills mansion, rejecting the claim that the brothers killed to end years of abuse.

The jury's decision that the brothers were guilty of special circumstances of lying in wait and multiple murders made them eligible for the death penalty.

Lyle and Erik at first denied any role in the killings of Jose and Mary Louise (Kitty) Menendez. They said they had been at the movies. For six months they went on with their lives, spending their inheritance. Then, in March 1990, they were arrested.

The brothers claimed that they had been sexually and psychologically abused since they were tots, and they finally believed their parents would kill them rather than risk disclosure of incest.

Dow Jones	Trib Index
Down 14.09	Down 0.16%
5655.42	134.72

The Dollar

New York,	Wed close	previous close
DM	1.4743	1.4735
Pound	1.539	1.5338
Yen	106.45	106.175
FF	5.0485	5.0375

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Newsstand Prices

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Egypt	£E 5	Réunion	12.50 FF
France	10.00 FF	Saudi Arabia	10.00 R.
Gabon	1100 CFA	Senegal	1,100 CFA
Greece	350 Dr.	Spain	225 PTAS
Italy	2,800 Lire	Tunisia	1,250 Din
Ivory Coast	1,250 CFA	U.A.E.	10.00 Dirh
Jordan	1,250 JD	U.S. Mil. (Eur.)	$1.20

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In Stockless Store, the Electronic Tailor 'Customizes' Clothes

By John Holusha
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — When the Custom Foot shoe store opens its doors in Westport, Connecticut, for the first time Thursday, it may be hard to judge how business is going — even shoppers making a purchase will be leaving empty-handed.

That's because this is a shoe store without shoes. Well, not exactly — the store can draw on a potential inventory of more than 10 million pairs, with every style in every possible size. It's just that none of them have been made yet.

Instead of trying on shoes until they find some that fit reasonably well, shoppers at Custom Foot will have their feet scanned electronically, with the scanner capturing even the slight differences in size and width that typically distinguish the right foot from the left. The data will be transmitted to factories in Italy, where the shoes will be made to order and delivered in about two weeks. The price? An average of about $140, comparable to high-quality mass-produced shoes but well below the $500 or more that a handmade pair usually commands.

The store on Main Street in the affluent commuter suburb is the latest, and in some ways most ambitious, experiment in what marketing experts call "mass customization." This seemingly contradictory term describes the process of using computers, flexible manufacturing techniques and sophisticated marketing approaches to narrowly target products and services to the needs of the individual buyer.

Mass customization gives individual customers "exactly what they want, without creating overwhelming choice complexity or pushing costs up to the point that a company prices itself out of the market," said Christopher W. Hart, a consultant who is president of the Spire Group in Brookline, Massachusetts.

Some electronics products, such as computers made by Dell and Gateway 2000 and pagers made by Motorola, have been mass customized for several years, with customers specifying the types of components to be used or the features desired. Large trucks are mostly custom built as well, with buyers detailing the type of engine, transmission and other major components to be included.

Mass customization is also catching on in the service sector. By studying demographics and individual credit histories, some financial services companies now offer customized deals for credit cards, for instance, varying the interest rates, credit limits and other terms, customer by customer. And certain luxury hotel chains, like Ritz-Carlton, compile detailed lists of each client's likes and dislikes. A traveler who registers at any Ritz-Carlton anywhere in the world does not have to ask for a nonsmoking room, a nonallergenic pillow or her favorite newspaper; her desires are already known.

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A Sense of Justice / **The Darden Dilemma**

In the Vise of Racism: Trying to Do the Right Thing

By William Claiborne
Washington Post Service

LOS ANGELES — For nine months, Christopher Darden sat there in the oppressively small courtroom as the "airtight" case against O.J. Simpson deflated in slow motion. He brooded, darkly and openly, because he knew — he didn't just think, he knew — that Mr. Simpson was guilty of two horrific murders. But he was equally certain that the mostly black jury was going to acquit Mr. Simpson, because for them it was payback time for centuries of racial injustice.

He was a proud black lawyer who was deeply conflicted about his role in the "Trial of the Century," shunned by his own community because he was prosecuting a black sports hero accused by white policemen of killing his beautiful white ex-wife and her white friend. And here was Chris Darden, dating a white woman himself, his fellow prosecutor Marcia Clark. O.J.'s nemesis.

As the trial turned from a murder case into what he came to believe was a political tribunal of a racist white police detective, the bile within him rose. He felt the anguish of the families of Nicole Brown Simpson and Ronald L. Goldman, who sat stoically a few feet behind him as the case slipped away.

Mr. Darden's disgust deepened as it began to seem that everybody involved in the case was selling his story to the highest bidder — marginally significant witnesses, self-described friends of O.J.'s and Nicole's, defense lawyers and even dismissed jurors, all seeking out television cameras to promote themselves and their books. One day, as the trial was winding down, he noticed Robert Shapiro, one of the defense lawyers, tapping away on a laptop computer in the courtroom, apparently at work on his own book even as testimony was still being heard.

As the trial progressed, Mr. Darden seemed to be undergoing a fundamental disillusionment with a criminal justice system he had dreamed of becoming a part of from boyhood. His arguments and cross-examinations began to be colored by sarcastic, under-the-breath asides about "this circus," "this farce" and "this joke of a trial."

To many who watched him, Mr. Darden became one of the trial's few symbols of uncompromising and even naive decency. He was the moody, sensitive, troubled presence who kept reminding the court that the real victims were being forgotten as the trial digressed into rancor over race relations.

Occasionally, he also made contemptuous references to those who sought financial rewards from the murders, and he recalls promising himself that he would never try to "profit that way from the deaths of these two people."

That was then.

This is now: Mr. Darden has been paid a $1.3 million advance by HarperCollins against sales of his book, "In Contempt," written with the freelancer Jess Walter, which appeared in bookstores Wednesday.

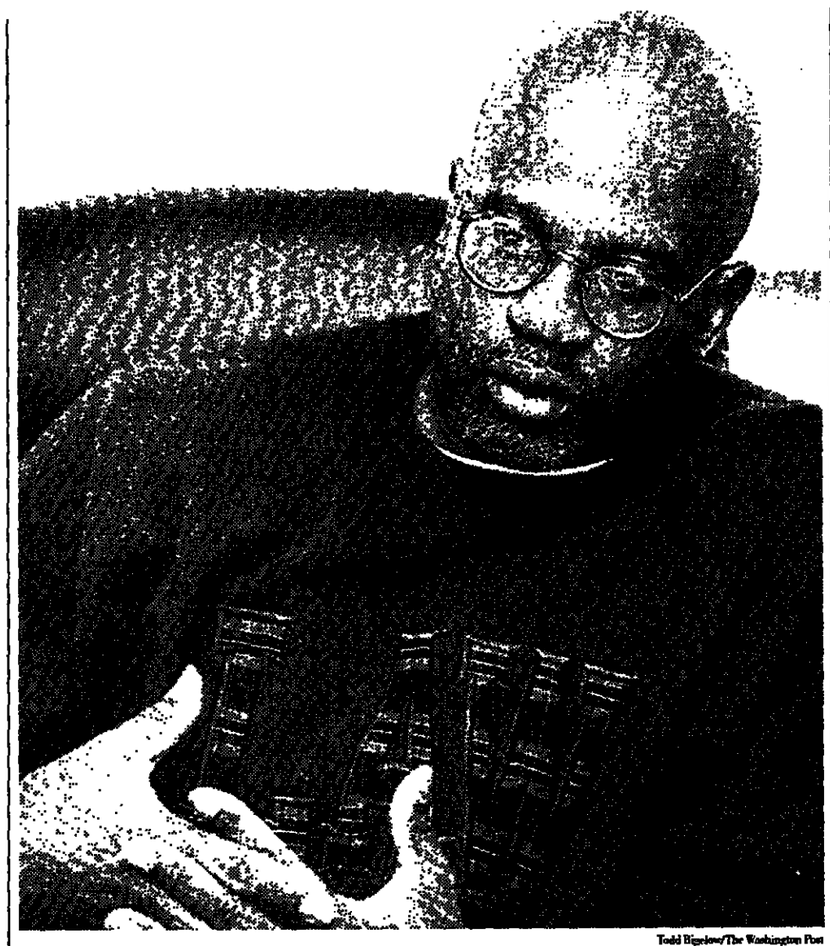
In his office at Southwestern University Law School, where he teaches, Mr. Darden is still angry about the outcome of the trial. In his view, a rich celebrity who was transparently guilty of two brutal murders is a free man because the criminal justice system was manipulated and perverted by a multimillion-dollar defense.

He is certain that the evidence was ignored in favor of making a political statement about police racism — a statement he happens to believe, but one he feels has no place in the process of deciding whether a man is a murderer.

His anger flows from disillusionment and a sense of betrayal, a feeling that everything he believed about the law and criminal justice has been turned upside-down. It almost pains him now to recall that in June 1994, even before he knew he would be involved in the trial, he told Marcia Clark that "black people will do the right thing if the evidence is there."

It was not to be so, and as that became clear, he was caught between white racism and black racism, what is now known in law school classrooms as the Darden Dilemma.

Mr. Darden said he could deal with the dilemma, because he feels it is important to have black prosecutors to add compassion to a court system that deals largely with blacks. He is just not sure he wants to be part of that system any more.



Todd Bigelow/The Washington Post

Christopher Darden is certain that the evidence was ignored in favor of making a political statement about police racism, a statement that he happens to believe, but one he feels doesn't belong in a murder trial.

Mr. Darden's book is brutally candid, and O.J. Simpson is not the only one to whom he gives no quarter. There is the $6 million Dream Team of defense lawyers, whom Mr. Darden accuses of "perverting and twisting the justice system" by shifting the focus of the trial from a mountain of incriminating circumstantial and physical evidence to Mark Fuhrman, the white police detective whom he considers a racist who may have been capable of planting evidence against Mr. Simpson but never had the opportunity to do so.

He describes the lead defense attorney, Johnnie L. Cochran Jr., as having "the arrogant grin of a guy dealt two aces, who always carries two others in his sock." Mr. Cochran, he writes, "knew those jurors wanted to let O.J. go. They just wanted permission."

He recalls how he lay awake at night, his stomach churning, after Mr. Cochran said publicly that the only reason Mr. Darden was on the prosecution team was because he is black.

"I will never forget watching Cochran drawing a line in the sand," Mr. Darden writes. "I will never forget watching him choose that butcher over me."

Later, when Mr. Cochran accused him in court of being an apologist for Detective Fuhrman, Mr. Darden seethed. "At that moment," he writes, "I hated Johnnie Cochran. And it pained me to hate another man, especially a black man I had considered a colleague."

He remembers blacks calling him a traitor and "Uncle Tom" — even spitting at him as he drove into the Criminal Courts Building — and feeling increasingly alienated from his own community. He quotes the Book of Proverbs in characterizing Mr. Cochran as "a false witness that speaketh lies, and he that soweth discord among brethren."

As for Judge Lance A. Ito, Mr. Darden writes, he "turned the keys of the courtroom over to Cochran," and allowed the trial to "veer like a runaway bus."

"A competent judge would've controlled this case," he continues. "He allowed a three-month trial to turn into a yearlong joke."

Mr. Darden's misgivings about the jury emerged early as potential panelists expressed their outlook in questionnaires and interviews with the lawyers.

What he saw was "a stagnant, shallow pool of bitterness and anger" that had been shaped by "a million indignities and injustices." But Mr. Darden wanted to believe in the fairness of the system. "Perhaps it was naive, but I convinced myself that African-Americans had to be represented in all segments of the law if we were to ever believe that the system was ours, too," he writes. He says he held to the notion that "blacks had such a strong sense of morality and justice that they would convict once they saw the overwhelming evidence against Simpson."

Later on Mr. Darden concluded: "No matter how much I wanted the jurors to look beyond race, I don't think they could. We faced a jury looking for the tiniest justification for an acquittal."

Dogs of War In Africa Face Leash By Mandela

By Lynne Duke
Washington Post Service

JOHANNESBURG — To the chagrin of South Africa's government, former soldiers who once staffed some of the apartheid era's most controversial military and intelligence units are selling their skills to the rest of Africa.

The existence of South African soldiers for hire poses a dilemma for President Nelson Mandela. His struggle for black-majority rule was thwarted for decades by the military and intelligence tactics used by some of the men who, now mercenaries, are cropping up in conflicts around the continent.

Some are the spies and commandos of the era of white minority rule who helped carry out domestic repression of blacks as well as military attacks on neighboring countries that supported the struggle led by Mr. Mandela's African National Congress.

Now, with these soldiers organized in a corporate structure and hiring themselves out to the highest governmental bidder, the government tends to see them as rogue military elements whose activities must be curtailed to prevent them from destabilizing African countries.

Former South African special forces officers operating under a firm called Executive Outcomes helped the Angolan government of President José Eduardo dos Santos win a war against a tenacious rebel force.

Although the Angolan government announced earlier this year — under pressure from Washington — that it had terminated its contract with what it called South African military trainers and sent them home, they remain a visible presence in parts of that country. They provide security at government oil drilling and diamond mining installations and, United Nations peacekeepers say, continue to stoke hostilities.

These South Africans also trained the military of the war-torn West African nation of Sierra Leone, where they reportedly still back up mining operations and the military, despite a recent coup.

Eeben Barlow, general manager of Executive Outcomes, said his company's services were in great demand. Four other African governments have approached the firm for assistance, he added, and operations outside the continent could be imminent if contracts are signed with two non-African governments.

Mr. Barlow's background is indicative of the brand of soldier that Executive Outcomes has attracted. In the days when white-ruled South Africa fought against the dos Santos government, Mr. Barlow was an officer in the South African Army's 32 Battalion, which consisted largely of Angolans opposed to Mr. dos Santos.

Mr. Barlow also was an agent of the Civil Cooperation Bureau, which carried out numerous covert operations in the name of apartheid and used a network of front companies here and abroad to hide its trail.

Executive Outcomes is the best known and apparently largest of firms here offering security services.

Estimates of the number of men in the Executive Outcomes stable range from 500 to 2,500. The firm will not say.

Executive Outcomes says it works only for legitimate governments — and for big money. Its Angola contract has been estimated to bring in from $20 million to $100 million a year. It operates within a network of international companies that specialize in oil drilling, diamond mining and land-mine removal. Ideology is no barrier.

South African officials searched last year for a way to prosecute Executive Outcomes for its involvement in Angola, but apparently did not find it. The government has tried to persuade its partners in the Organization of African Unity to take a position against such firms as Executive Outcomes, to no avail.

Some observers here say that the Mandela government could have done far more far sooner to stop Executive Outcomes, if it had really wanted to. South Africa now is taking a hard line: Legislation to be submitted to Parliament will make the operation of such firms illegal.

The legislation is to be given to Mr. Mandela's cabinet and then to Parliament in the current session.

Walter Sullivan Dies at 78, Led Times' Science Coverage

By John Noble Wilford
New York Times Service

Walter Sullivan, 78, a science reporter and editor for The New York Times whose articles took him from pole to pole and ranged from the seabed to the shifting continents, and from the nuclear to the cosmic, died Tuesday at his home in Riverside, Connecticut.

The cause was pancreatic cancer, his family said.

In a career spanning a half-century of prodigious scientific endeavor and discovery, Mr. Sullivan expanded the intellectual and geographic boundaries of science journalism. He set the pace for colleagues and competitors with inexhaustible energy, enthusiasm and a keen sense of what was important and interesting. He won nearly every prize offered in science journalism.

His reports stretched the minds of newspaper readers, as he told of the marvels of the restless Earth and violent universe and the audacity of the people trying to understand them.

He wrote swiftly, hurrying to be off on the next article, but the authority of his articles impressed scientists. On at least one occasion, physicists said they did not fully appreciate the significance of their discovery until they read about it in Mr. Sullivan's article the next day.

His bags always seemed to be packed, keeping him ready for the call of Antarctic explorations, explorations of tunnels deep under Greenland's Arctic icecap, round-the-world experiments of the International Geophysical Year of 1957-58, rocket launchings at Cape Canaveral or the early searches for extraterrestrial intelligence.

Through his charm and intelligence, Mr. Sullivan cultivated many of the world's leading scientists as friends and sources, and the result was uncounted "scoops," which he relished.

Once, tipped off that an unexpected subatomic particle had been detected, he spent the first half of a football game in the press box at the Yale Bowl talking by telephone with scientists, then left to write the article for the front page.

Before turning to science, Mr. Sullivan was a foreign correspondent for The Times in China, Korea and Berlin. He became science news editor in 1962 and, in 1964, succeeded William L. Laurence as science editor. In that position, he worked fervently to expand the paper's science coverage and staff.

Mr. Sullivan held the title of science editor until his official retirement in 1987.

He continued to write occasional articles until the last two months of his life.

Jacquetta Hawkes, 85, Widow of J.B. Priestley

LONDON (AP) — Jacquetta Hawkes, 85, a writer and archeologist and the widow of the playwright and novelist J.B. Priestley, died Monday in Cheltenham, England.

Her books included "A Land" in 1951, "Man on Earth" in 1954, "Man and the Sun" in 1962 and "Dawn of the Gods," a study of Bronze Age Greece, in 1968.

Gyula Kallai, prime minister in the mid-1960s when Hungary began experimenting with modest economic reforms, died March 12. He was buried Tuesday.

TRAVEL UPDATE

Orders of the Garter Go on Display

PARIS (Reuters) — Queen Elizabeth II of Britain showed off some of her most prized jewels on Wednesday in a glittering show of orders of chivalry ranging from Britain's Order of the Garter to Thailand's Order of the White Elephant.

The Queen allowed an exhibit of 137 medals, chains and crosses in Paris that gives an insight into past centuries of international royal intrigue.

The exhibition opened Wednesday at the Mona Bismarck Foundation in Paris, where it will run until May 11. It moves next year to Windsor Castle, the queen's residence west of London, and Holyrood House in Edinburgh.

"This is the first time these decorations and orders have been displayed in public," said Oliver Everett, the librarian at Windsor Castle.

The awards include diamond-studded Orders of the Garter, the first order of chivalry. They were established in 1348 by Edward III and awarded to 24 knights to help ensure their loyalty to the crown. It remains the most prestigious of the British awards.

France will mark the 200th anniversary of Napoléon Bonaparte's rule Friday by opening the lavishly restored Inner Apartments at Napoléon's 16th century chateau at Fontainebleau, south of Paris. *(Reuters)*

A last blast of winter plastered the Ohio and Tennessee valleys with heavy, wet snow, closing schools, sending cars skidding off highways and leaving thousands of people without electricity. *(AP)*

Moscow is one of the world's worst fire traps, a senior official said, with fire deaths running at an annual rate of 50 per 1 million inhabitants. He said most of the blazes were caused by drunks. *(AP)*

A strike paralyzed transport in Marseille for a second consecutive day Wednesday in a dispute over working hours. In another job action, a 24-hour strike by Air France cabin crews Air France failed to disrupt services, the airline said. *(AFP)*

Divorce Ruling A 'Travesty' to Mrs. Mandela

The Associated Press

JOHANNESBURG — Winnie Mandela called her divorce from the president a "travesty of justice" Wednesday and said she was considering appealing to the Constitutional Court.

Mrs. Mandela, 61, issued a statement a day after President Nelson Mandela, 77, was granted a divorce from her amid uncontested allegations of adultery.

She complained that she had been forced to represent herself, and that the judge had refused to wait for her to bring in witnesses. Mrs. Mandela dismissed her lawyer moments before the end of the divorce hearing Tuesday.

She said in her statement that the court's refusal to continue the hearing was "to a lay person like me a travesty of justice."

Mrs. Mandela got more bad news Wednesday when she lost her claim to half the president's estate as part of the divorce settlement.

The claim was dismissed after Mrs. Mandela failed to appear in court or send a lawyer. One newspaper estimated Mr. Mandela's net worth at some 40 million rand ($10.3 million).

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Armenia	8-10-155	El Salvador	800-1776	Luxembourg	0800-0115	South Africa +	0-800-99-0001
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Australia (Optus) +	1-800-551-10	Finland +	9800-1-0284	Malaysia +	800-0016	Sweden +	020-799-011
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Bahamas +	1-800-389-2111	Greece +	008-001-411	Netherlands Antilles ★ (Curacao & Bonaire) +	001-800-745-1111	Taiwan	0080-14-0877
Bahrain	800-777	Guam	950-1366	Netherlands +	06-022-9119	Thailand	001-999-13-877
Barbados ★	1-800-534-0842	Guatemala +	195	New Zealand	000-999	Turkey +	00-800-1-4477
Belgium +	0800-10014	Honduras ▲	121	Nicaragua (Managua)	171	Ukraine	8-100-15
Belize (hotels)	556	Hong Kong	800-1877	Norway +	800-19877	U.S. Virgin Islands	1-800-877-8000
Belize (all other) ◇	812	Hungary +	00◆800-01-877	Panama	115	U.S.A.	1-800-877-8000
Bermuda ★	1-800-623-0877	Iceland + ★	800-9003	Peru	176	United Arab Emirates +	800-131
Bolivia	0800-2333	India +	000-137	Philippines (RTF stations only) ◇	105-01	United Kingdom (BT)	0800-89-0877
Brazil	000-8016	Indonesia (Indosat)	001-801-15	Philippines (PhilCom) ▲	102-611	United Kingdom (Mercury)	0500-89-0877
British Virgin Islands	1-800-877-8000	Indonesia (Satelindo)	008-801-15	Philippines (PLDT)	105-16	Uruguay	000417
Bulgaria ▲	00-800-1010	Ireland +	1-80022-53-2001	Poland +	00-800-111-3115	Vatican City +	172-1877
Canada	1-800-877-8000	Israel +	177-102-2727	Portugal +	05017-1-877	Venezuela	800-1111-0
Cayman Islands	1-800-366-4663	Italy +	172-1877	Puerto Rico	1-800-877-8000	Vietnam (exiting centers)	1201-1111
Chile	00◆0317	Jamaica (hotels)	875	Romania +	01-800-0877		
China +	108-13	Jamaica (airports, docks)	5	Russia (Moscow) +	155-6133		
Colombia	980-130-010	Japan (IDC) +	0066-55-877	Russia (all other) +	8095-155-6122		
Costa Rica +	0800-0013-0123	Japan (KDD) +	0039-131	St. Lucia ★	1-800-277-7468		
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THE AMERICAS

Nomination Locked Up, and for Dole the Battle Is Joined

By Dan Balz
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — In his sweep of primaries in four Midwestern states, Senator Bob Dole of Kansas wrapped up the Republican presidential nomination and immediately sought to frame the fall campaign against President Bill Clinton as a battle between someone who "fights for change" and one who "fights for the status quo."

Rolling over Patrick J. Buchanan in Illinois, Michigan, Ohio and Wisconsin on Tuesday, Mr. Dole finally captured a prize he had twice sought. He passed the threshold of 996 delegates needed to win the nomination just four weeks after a defeat in New Hampshire that led many people to question whether his candidacy would even survive.

The ever-cautious Mr. Dole first refused to claim the prize, telling supporters that the California primary election next week would "take us over the top, way over the top." But with delegate counters showing Mr. Dole already had cleared that hurdle, he acknowledged the fight was over. "I think it's safe to say now, I will be the nominee," he said.

In declaring victory, the Senate majority leader kept his focus squarely on Mr. Clinton and promised to bring "common sense conservatism" to the White House.

"It's going to be a choice between a candidate who will fight for change and a candidate who will campaign for change and then fight for the status quo," Mr. Dole said of the fall campaign.

"It's a choice between a candidate who will appoint conservative judges to the court and a candidate who appoints liberals judges who bend the laws to let drug dealers go free. And a choice between a candidate who believes government should reflect America's values and a candidate whose policies undermine those values," he said.

Ann Lewis, deputy director for President Clinton's re-election campaign, agreed that the election would offer voters "a clear and distinct choice," but she said Mr. Dole should quit "throwing adjectives" and start talking "substantively about what they would do instead."

"I think the American people are turned off by this piling up of rhetoric at the expense of substance," Ms. Lewis added.

Mr. Dole won more than 60 percent of the vote in both Illinois and Ohio, but his margins were smaller in both Michigan, where Mr. Buchanan campaigned heavily among blue collar voters, and in Wisconsin.

Mr. Buchanan's showing in Michigan, where he got 34 percent of the vote, represented his high-water mark in the 1996 campaign, and was a substantial improvement over his 1992 total of 25 percent in the state.

An exit poll by Voter News Service of the entire Midwest region showed Mr. Dole with broad appeal to Republicans; he won sizeable margins among almost all demographic groups.

As he did last week in the South, Senator Dole won among several key constituencies carried earlier by Mr. Buchanan, particularly religious conservatives and voters who support the Republican Party's restrictive, anti-abortion platform plank.

But Mr. Buchanan captured about 4 in 10 votes among the religious conservatives and more than a third of the anti-abortion platform supporters.

While Mr. Dole demonstrated his appeal to the Republican rank-and-file, he did far less well among independents or voters who backed the independent presidential candidate Ross Perot in 1992. The senator captured more than two-thirds of self-identified Republicans or those who supported George Bush four years ago, but less than half of the independents and the Perot voters.

Among Democrats who took part in the Republican primaries Tuesday, Mr. Dole split the vote with Mr. Buchanan, who pitched his campaign in Michigan to Democratic crossover voters.

Mr. Buchanan also won pluralities among a small percentage of voters who cited abortion or foreign trade as key issues, and with his strong protectionist message, captured those for whom foreign trade was the top concern.

Mr. Buchanan's communications director, Greg Mueller, said the commentator's continued support among social conservatives should prompt Mr. Dole to think about adding Mr. Buchanan to the ticket as the vice presidential candidate.

"If the Dole people think they can get the Buchanan voters without Buchanan, they're smoking something funny," Mr. Mueller said. "His base is too solid for him."

Mr. Dole reacted coolly to such talk, telling The Associated Press, "Last time I looked, I was the one winning" and suggesting that Mr. Buchanan had to decide whether he was "a good Republican."

But Mr. Mueller raised the possibility that Buchanan could still bolt the Republican Party and run as an independent.

"Our faxes and phone calls are coming in 15-to-1 to go third party," he said. "There is immense pressure on Pat, not only among some senior aides here at the campaign, but also among our grassroots activists and the grassroots leadership. They're saying don't endorse Dole and run third party."

Governor Tommy Thompson of Wisconsin said Mr. Dole would win a two-man race against Mr. Clinton.

The Results *How the leading Republican candidates scored*

	Illinois	Michigan	Ohio	Wisconsin
Patrick J. Buchanan	23%	34%	22%	34%
Bob Dole	65%	51%	66%	53%

Source: AP

Don Hardy, left, and Ralph Drafall chatting after they voted in the Illinois primary in Grafton Township.

POLITICAL NOTES

Clinton Can Testify On Tape, Judge Says

LITTLE ROCK, Arkansas — A federal judge on Wednesday directed defense lawyers in the Whitewater fraud trial to take President Bill Clinton's testimony by videotape because ordering him to travel to Little Rock would be unduly burdensome on his official duties.

U.S. District Judge George Howard Jr. denied motions by James B. and Susan McDougal to compel the president to testify in person at their conspiracy and fraud trial.

The judge rejected Mr. Clinton's request that he be given the questions in advance. He said the lawyers can ask the president whatever they like about allegations raised during the trial.

The judge will preside over the questioning by video conferencing and rule on objections as they come up. He also will edit the videotape if lawyers cannot agree on what is pertinent for jurors to hear.

Mr. McDougal, his former wife, Susan, and Governor Jim Guy Tucker are accused of arranging nearly $3 million in fraudulent loans from the McDougals' Madison Guaranty Savings and Loan and David Hale's Capital Management Services Inc. *(AP)*

Budget Cuts Restored

WASHINGTON — Yielding to the White House, the Senate has passed a $166 billion spending bill that would restore hundreds of millions of dollars for education, job training and environmental programs for the remaining six months of the current 1996 fiscal year.

But the bill, which provides funding for some of the largest departments and agencies of the federal government, falls short of the spending levels that the Clinton administration had requested and still has riders, including some on environmental matters that the White House opposes.

"The Senate bill has certainly been improved by the amendments that have been adopted, but the administration still has some concerns and will be looking for further improvements down the road," said Barry Toiv, a spokesman for the White House chief of staff, Leon E. Panetta.

The corresponding half-year spending plan that the House of Representatives approved March 7 does not include the increases that the Senate approved Tuesday. *(NYT)*

HIV Law Rejected

WASHINGTON — The Senate has voted to overturn a month-old law that requires the mandatory discharge of members of the armed forces who test positive for the virus that causes AIDS.

Senator Bob Dole, the majority leader and presumptive Republican presidential nominee, agreed to a vote without debate Tuesday after Senator William S. Cohen, Republican of Maine, and Senator Edward M. Kennedy, Democrat of Massachusetts, told him that they had lined up 56 votes to overturn the law requiring the discharges.

The AIDS provision requires that the Defense Department begin removing HIV-infected service members within six months, or by August, regardless of their ability to perform their jobs. The Pentagon says the policy would affect slightly more than 1,000 people.

But the policy will not be changed without a similar vote in the House, where the effort to overturn the provision is expected to encounter much stiffer opposition. *(NYT)*

'Green Card' Update

WASHINGTON — Seeking to disrupt the counterfeiting of immigration documents, the government is pushing hundreds of thousands of legal immigrants to renew their old "green cards."

Wednesday was the expiration date set by the Immigration and Naturalization Service for permanent resident alien permits issued before 1979. Unlike the new cards, the old cards carry neither the holder's thumbprint nor signature.

Having failed to obtain a new green card by the deadline could pose problems upon re-entry for anyone traveling abroad. Legal immigrants also could face difficulties when applying for public benefits with the old document. The agency has been working since 1993 to get the older cards out of circulation. Of the estimated 1.5 million affected legal immigrants, almost 1 million have already obtained new documents. *(AP)*

Quote/Unquote

Ross Perot, on his willingness to run as a presidential candidate on his Reform Party's ticket. "Let's assume the dust clears, and that's what the members of this party want. Then certainly, I would give it everything I have." *(AP)*

Challenge to '90 Census Results Is Lost

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court upheld the 1990 census results Wednesday, rejecting an attempt by local governments to force an adjustment because of an undercount of minorities.

The secretary of commerce had the discretion to decide not to adjust the census results, the justices said in unanimously rejecting a challenge by New York City, Los Angeles, Chicago and other local governments.

Census figures are used to draw congressional and state election districts and to distribute federal financial aid.

Changing the 1990 census would have stripped Wisconsin of a member of the House, transferring the seat to California.

"We hold that the secretary's decision was well within the constitutional bounds of discretion over the conduct of the census provided to the federal government," Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist wrote for the court.

"In 1990, the Census Bureau made an extraordinary effort to conduct an accurate enumeration, and was successful in counting 98.4 percent of the population," the chief justice wrote.

He said that those who challenged the census results "have not argued that the secretary's decision not to adjust was based upon an intent to discriminate on the basis of race."

"Indeed, in light of the government's extraordinary efforts to include traditionally undercounted minorities in the 1990 census," Justice Rehnquist wrote, those who sought an adjustment "would have had a tough row to hoe had they set out to prove intentional discrimination by the secretary."

The Constitution requires an "actual enumeration" of U.S. citizens every 10 years and allows Congress to decide how it will be done. Congress has turned that authority over to the secretary of commerce.

The Clinton administration argued that it was impossible to know the true U.S. population and that the 1990 count was the most thorough census in history.

The count missed about 4 million in a population of 248 million to 253 million, Solicitor General Drew S. Days 3d told the court in January.

But the commerce secretary at the time decided not to adjust the census figures to make up for that undercount.

The adjusted figures appeared to be less accurate than the original count, officials said.

Away From Politics

- **The satellite-on-a-wire that broke loose from the space shuttle Columbia plunged into the atmosphere** at 17,000 miles an hour and burned up over the Indian Ocean. *(AP)*
- **Concluding that current laws place too great an emphasis on preserving families,** a New York commission on child abuse has called for changes in the state's child welfare system, including easing the removal of children from abusive households and making endangering the welfare of a child a felony. *(NYT)*
- **A judicial hearing officer has ruled that a Denver school district cannot dismiss** a high school English teacher for showing the R-rated film "1900" by Bernardo Bertolucci to his students. The movie includes scenes of homosexuality, oral sex, nudity and violence. *(NYT)*
- **Teachers in Oakland, California, have agreed** to end a bitter five-week strike in exchange for more money and smaller classes. *(NYT)*

On Tape, A Teacher's Appeals to Her Killer

By David Stout
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — In the final minutes of her life, a New Jersey teacher secretly turned on a recorder that taped 24 minutes in which she pleaded in vain with her abductor to spare her life.

"You haven't done anything yet," the teacher, Kathleen Weinstein, is heard to say, according to a New Jersey prosecutor. "All you have to do is to let me go and take my car."

The prosecutor, Daniel J. Carluccio, said the recording, in which Mrs. Weinstein's voice reflects both compassion and coolness in the face of mortal danger, was crucial in the case against the youth who he said abducted and killed her last week.

"I have no doubt Kathleen Weinstein spoke to us through that tape," Mr. Carluccio said.

He said Mrs. Weinstein, 45, was able to elicit her abductor's first name, age, where he went to school and enough other personal details to build a case against him.

Even in her peril, Mr. Carluccio said, she was able to talk to the youth as the teacher she was.

"Don't you understand, though, what kind of trouble you are going to get in?" she said at one point. "Don't you think they are going to find you?"

The New Jersey youth was charged Tuesday with murder, felony murder and "carjacking." He had been in custody since Sunday, when he was found with Mrs. Weinstein's car, the authorities said.

The victim was a special-education teacher. The authorities said she stopped to get a sandwich at a restaurant and returned to her car, a Toyota Camry. It happened to be the model the youth had decided to steal in an advance celebration of his 17th birthday, Mr. Carluccio said.

Mrs. Weinstein's body, with hands and feet bound, was found Sunday in a wooded area off a highway. Investigators said she had been smothered with her coat.

Mr. Carluccio said the small recorder she had managed to activate was found in one of her pockets

For much of the exchange, Mrs. Weinstein sounds very much like a counselor, Mr. Carluccio said, as when she presses her abductor on why he is doing what he is doing:

"Of course, it's important. It's determining your whole life and the direction you're taking."

Mrs. Weinstein tells him that he can still back out: "Why don't you just start all over again and not take the car and let me drive you somewhere. You'll be safe, and you don't have to get in trouble. Whatever trouble you're in, you didn't add to it yet, right?"

Later, pleading, she says: "I'll make you a promise that I won't tell anybody. Because you won't be taking my car, and you won't be hurting me. And maybe you can get away, another way."

At another point, Mrs. Weinstein's composure seems to break: "For my life, don't you think I should be concerned and let you take my car? For my life!"

In her final minutes, Mrs. Weinstein told her captor of her six-year-old son, and how she and her husband planned to take in a foster child, perhaps adopt a child. "I want to give something to somebody," she said, "to give something back."

AMERICAN TOPICS

Car Phone Users Run A Higher Crash Risk

People with a cellular phone in their cars run a 34 percent higher risk of having an accident, according to research conducted jointly by two universities in New York state. The danger level rises both when drivers use the phone frequently, or while doing something else, such as lighting a cigarette or drinking coffee.

Most often, it seems, motorists engrossed in a phone conversation run red lights and get into collisions at busy intersections. But even on the open highway, a car-phone call can take people's minds off their driving.

"They kind of forget about the rest of the world," said John Violanti, a criminal justice professor at Rochester Institute of Technology. "They're not intentionally cutting somebody off, they're just not seeing them."

The study was conducted by Mr. Violanti and James Marshall, professor of social and preventive medicine at the State University of New York at Buffalo. It is believed to be the first of its kind.

The Cellular Telecommunications Industry Association dismissed the study as limited and flawed: "It has glaring research shortcomings," said a spokeswoman.

The researchers, who plan a larger survey this year, countered that their findings, even though preliminary, should not be ignored at a time when cell-phone sales are booming.

Short Takes

There seems to be an Academy Award for everything except dangerous stunts. The academy has never taken a formal position on the matter, but some stunt men and stunt women predict there will be a stunt sequence trophy presented within the next few years. Others are skeptical, noting that stunt players get attention only when something goes wrong. More important, perhaps, is that a stunt Oscar might be dangerous. Says Mike Ryan, a stunt driver in "Terminator 2": "They're afraid if they hang the brass ring up there, somebody will die jumping for it."

A study finds that the shorter men are, the greater their risk of heart trouble and high blood pressure. So short men probably should make extra sure they take whatever precautions they can to reduce their risk, such as watching their weight and blood pressure, said Dr. Donna Parker of Memorial Hospital of Rhode Island in Pawtucket. Her study of 6,589 Rhode Islanders showed that men under 5 foot-5 had a risk of heart disease twice that of these moderate-size men, while men over 5-foot-10 had a risk that was 60 percent lower. The reason is unclear, but being short can be a sign of poor nutrition in childhood The study found no sign that short women are more prone to heart trouble.

This is National Card and Letter Writing Week, the U.S. Postal Services notes, just the time for communicating with friends and relatives by mail and, incidentally, giving the postal business a little boost. Currently less than 4 percent of mail is personal letters, postal officials say. So they are focusing on the special week "to bring back an appreciation for the art of letter writing."

Vice President Al Gore said "Mr. Popper's Penguins" was the coolest book he could think of. The television weatherman Willard Scott still pulls for the "The Little Engine That Could." Tolstoy's "War and Peace" was the favorite of President Nelson Mandela of South Africa, and General H. Norman Schwarzkopf likes Jack London's "White Fang."

For the ninth straight year, Glenna Nowell, a librarian in Gardiner, Maine, has compiled her unscientific "Who Reads What" sampling by writing famous people and asking them their all-time favorite books. The list precedes National Library Week, which aims to get people to read more.

The actor Anthony Quinn chose Thomas Wolfe's "Of Time and the River." The telecaster Bryant Gumbel called "The Autobiography of Malcolm X" "a must read for every African-American."

International Herald Tribune

Colleges Lose Racial Diversity Suit

Court Voids Texas Admissions Based on Affirmative Action

By Joan Biskupic
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — In a decision that reverberated nationwide throughout higher education, a federal appeals court has ruled that public universities may not justify affirmative action programs based on the benefits of racial diversity.

The decision by the Fifth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, issued late Monday, struck down an admissions policy at the University of Texas law school that gave preference to blacks and Hispanics as a violation of the U.S. Constitution's guarantee of equal protection.

"This could affect literally every public institution in America because all of them take racial diversity into account in admissions," a University of Virginia law professor, John C. Jeffries Jr., said. "This is incredibly big."

The ruling is the first major "reverse discrimination" decision since the Supreme Court restricted affirmation action in June.

The appeals decision specifically applies only to Texas, Louisiana and Mississippi. It marked the first time since 1978, when the high court first endorsed affirmative action in higher education, that a school's efforts for a racially diverse student body have been dramatically undercut.

The appeals court ruled in favor of four white students who were denied admission to the University of Texas law school. The court rejected the assumption that individuals possess characteristics because of their race.

"To believe that a person's race controls his point of view is to stereotype him," the court said.

Schools may still try to justify affirmative action as a remedy to specific past discrimination at a particular school, but that standard is difficult to meet.

Michael Greve, the director of the Center for Individual Rights, which represented two of the white applicants, said the decision would boost the prospects of people alleging reverse discrimination.

"The ruling is so unequivocal and clear that people will listen up," Mr. Greve said. "It ends the diversity charade."

Professor Jeffries said the high court might not readily turn aside the advantages of racial diversity.

"I think the Supreme Court will uphold diversity in the educational context, because it is such a compelling argument," he said. "Students learn from each other, from all cultures."

Allan Van Fleet, who represented the University of Texas, agreed that the appeals court decision was unlikely to be the last word. "If diversity cannot be a legitimate goal in Texas, given its past history, there is no place in the country for affirmative action," he said.

In recent years a number of court rulings and administrative decisions have put college admissions and scholarship practices under increased scrutiny.

Just two years ago the Fourth U.S. Court of Appeals rejected a University of Maryland scholarship program that was exclusively for blacks. And last year the University of California Board of Regents called for the abolition of all racial criteria in admissions.

More than a dozen states are considering bills to prevent universities from using racial considerations in admissions or hiring.

In its ruling, the three-judge appeals court acknowledged that the Supreme Court in the 1978 case of Regents of the University of California v. Bakke said universities had a compelling interest in educational diversity that would justify racial preferences in admissions.

But the appeals court noted that, in recent affirmative action rulings, the Supreme Court had suggested that the only compelling state interest for affirmative action was remedying past wrongs. That rationale has been voiced in cases concerning job discrimination in employment.

A Conciliatory Gesture to China

Taiwan's Leader Calls for Eventual Reunification

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

TAIPEI — President Lee Teng-hui of Taiwan, making a conciliatory gesture amid threatening Chinese war games, said Wednesday that he sought better relations and eventual reunification with Beijing.

But Mr. Lee said that China first must embrace democracy and added that the people of Taiwan stood united in the face of military intimidation. Mr. Lee, whom Beijing has accused of seeking independence for Taiwan, is the front-runner in Taiwan's first direct democratic presidential election, on Saturday.

China has been holding war games in two parts of the 145-kilometer-wide (90-mile-wide) Taiwan Strait that separates the island from the mainland.

One set of maneuvers, held 120 kilometers southwest of Taiwan, ended Wednesday after nine days, the official Xinhua press agency reported from Beijing.

In the second area, just 20 kilometers from outlying Taiwanese islands, "only a few ship activities" took place, perhaps because of bad weather, Taiwan's Defense Ministry said.

Taiwan is ruled by the Nationalists, who fled to the island in 1949 after losing a civil war to the rival Communists. Both governments say the island and China are one country.

"We have with goodwill extended both hands to our compatriots on the Chinese mainland," Mr. Lee said. "We would like in the future to have China unified, in freedom, democracy."

Mr. Lee, who says Chinese leaders are afraid the example of Taiwan's democracy will undermine their control, said China's attempt to intimidate the island had failed.

"What the actions of the Chinese Communists have done is pull together the minds and feelings of the 21 million Chinese people" on Taiwan, he said.

Mr. Lee's running mate, Lien Chan, said Taiwan wanted to resume talks on closer economic and political ties.

"We are interested in seriously negotiating a peace agreement between the two sides of the strait," he said. "The content of this agreement is something that should be left for the future."

"We don't want to see a crisis in the area," he added. "And whoever tried to create that crisis should undo it."

Mr. Lien, who is also prime minister, thanked Washington for its support.

"We appreciate the U.S.'s moral support," Mr. Lien said.

But he declined to say whether Taipei would welcome U.S. warships in the Taiwan Strait, which Beijing bitterly opposes.

"This is a matter for the U.S. to decide by itself," he said.

The American aircraft carrier Independence and other warships are patrolling near Taiwan, but not in the strait.

A second U.S. Navy battle group dispatched to the tense Taiwan Strait was heading Wednesday toward final passage into the South China Sea, a U.S. Navy spokesman said.

China has warned the United States to keep out of the strait and accused it of making a "brazen show of force."

The House of Representatives approved a nonbinding resolution late Tuesday calling on Beijing to halt any military efforts to intimidate Taiwan. The bill also said that U.S. forces "should defend Taiwan in the event of invasion, missile attack, or blockade" by China. *(AP, Reuters)*

China Quake Kills Dozens, Leaving 10,000 Homeless

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

BEIJING — An earthquake has struck a centuries-old trading center along the Silk Road in remote northwestern China, killing at least 24 persons, many of them young children.

The quake collapsed 50,000 buildings and cracked a dike late Tuesday night, government seismologists said Wednesday.

More than 75 people were injured and at least 10,000 were left homeless, officials said. But they added that they had not yet received casualty and damage reports from outlying regions.

The earthquake, measuring 6.9 on the open-ended Richter scale, struck the Xinjiang Uygur autonomous region, rocking Artux, Jiashi and Bachu prefectures and the old Silk Road bazaar town of Kashgar.

Inhabitants of Jiashi Prefecture were cowering in corners of their homes as dozens of aftershocks continued to jolt the area, officials there said.

"It was the worst earthquake I have ever felt," said one woman in Jiashi, the county town of the prefecture that was worst hit by the tremor.

She did not specify how many earthquakes she had been through.

Seventeen of those killed were children under the age of 8, said Bake Aji, director of the Kashgar Seismology Bureau. "They were home watching television and could not get out fast enough when the earthquake hit," he said.

Nine of the casualties were seriously injured by the collapse of walls and roofs, he added.

Fifty-two aftershocks were recorded, including one with a magnitude of 5.1, said Zhang Yunfeng of the Xinjiang Seismology Bureau.

Government officials warned that there could be more.

Rescue teams put up tents for survivors. A rescue worker in Jiashi said, "There are no buildings left standing."

The quake opened up a crack 4 kilometers (2.5 miles) long in an earthen dike at the end of one of the area's biggest reservoirs.

Temperatures in the sparsely populated desert region hovered Wednesday around freezing point.

"There is heavy snow and it is very cold, so they are really in need of shelter," an official in the region said. *(AP, Reuters)*

Toyohiro Maruyama/The Associated Press

Posters in Tokyo of four suspects wanted in the nerve gas attack on the Tokyo subway. On the anniversary of the March 20, 1995, attack, victims called on the government to put an end to the Aum Shinrikyo cult.

Sad Anniversary in Tokyo Subway

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

TOKYO — Victims of last year's March 20 nerve gas attack on the Tokyo subway marked the anniversary Wednesday with calls on the Japanese government to put an end to the Aum Shinrikyo cult.

Members of the cult have admitted taking part in the gas attacks on five subway cars. Twelve people were killed and more than 5,500 injured.

"For us, the time has stopped since this day a year ago," said Sizue Takahashi, the wife of a station worker killed in the attack. "To prevent similar attacks occurring again, we want the court to declare Aum bankrupt as soon as possible."

Transit officials and bereaved families held a memorial ceremony in the central Kasumigaseki station that was the focus of the attack. With trains rumbling by on nearby tracks, mourners prayed for a moment, then unveiled a memorial plaque.

Uniformed police, once a rare sight in the subway, kept a watchful eye over the ceremony. They also patrolled in other stations throughout Tokyo, handing out fliers showing the faces of cult fugitives still sought in the attack.

The subway attack shook Japan's long-cherished sense of safety. It also set off soul-searching about whether the very nature of Japanese society — traits like conformity and deference to authority — had helped fuel the rise of the Aum cult.

Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto visited the station to pray before a small Buddhist altar set up just off a bustling platform. Later, he called the attack "an unforgivable crime."

At the altar, mourners offered white chrysanthemums one by one, and two vases of white lilies were placed before the newly unveiled plaque.

The plaque is in memory of all the attack's victims, but singles out two subway workers who died trying to help stricken passengers. One was the Kasumigaseki stationmaster, Kazumasa Takahashi, who rushed onto one of the affected trains after hearing there was an emergency. He managed, before collapsing, to remove a suspicious-looking bag that turned out to be the source of deadly fumes.

The other memorialized station worker, Tsuneo Hishinuma, also died trying to help get the packet of sarin nerve gas away from passengers.

The leader of the cult, Shoko Asahara, is to stand trial next month on murder charges linked to the attack. *(AFP, AP)*

U.S. to Send Arms to Pakistan Despite Nuclear Deal

By R. Jeffrey Smith
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — The Clinton administration has notified the Senate that it intends to ship hundreds of millions of dollars worth of U.S. conventional arms to Pakistan despite opposition from lawmakers concerned about that nation's recent purchase from China of sensitive equipment for making nuclear weapons.

U.S. officials said the decision ruled out any immediate U.S. penalty against Pakistan for obtaining the nuclear-related equipment from China.

Both Pakistan and China denied that the transaction took place, but U.S. intelligence officials and policymakers now say they are convinced the sale went through last year.

While U.S. laws bar direct military or economic assistance to any countries that obtain such nuclear equipment, the administration has decided that the transfer of the armaments from the United States is not restricted because Pakistan paid for them years ago, the officials said.

They said the administration also decided to proceed with the shipment to foster a dialogue with Pakistan aimed at producing a new commitment that it would not expand or upgrade its nuclear arsenal.

Still undecided, officials say, is whether any economic sanctions over the transaction should be invoked against China. That is a far more controversial legal and political question, coming in the midst of heightened U.S.-Chinese tensions over Taiwan, human rights and the piracy of American commercial goods.

Washington sent a delegation to Beijing last weekend to extract a promise that Pakistan would get no additional aid related to nuclear weapons. That arrangement, the officials said, will enable the administration to waive many economic sanctions against China.

But it is not yet clear whether Beijing has agreed to cooperate.

Three administration officials told key senators Tuesday that Pakistan would be allowed to obtain navy P-3C military aircraft, Harpoon and AIM-9L missiles and other equipment worth $368 million.

Pakistan bought the arms in the late 1980s but was barred by U.S. law from receiving them because of its nuclear weapons program. Under administration and Pakistani pressure, however, Congress approved a one-time exemption from the law in November to allow the transaction to proceed.

Pakistan will also get about $120 million in cash that it paid in the late 1980s for U.S. weapons that were never manufactured, the officials said. In addition, it will get new U.S. aid worth tens of millions of dollars for its efforts to fight terrorism and narcotics and to keep peace.

"The basic issue is how we influence Pakistan," a senior official said. "Our strong view is that Pakistan is more likely to remain on a course that will serve American national interests if we remain engaged."

Safety Officials Suspended In Philippine Disco Fire

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

MANILA — The Philippine immigration commission on Wednesday barred the owners of a discotheque ravaged by a fire that killed 151 people from leaving the country pending an investigation into the cause of the blaze.

The government also ordered the suspension of Fire Marshal Manuel Baduria of Quezon City, the Manila suburb where the disco is situated, and his entire team of inspectors.

The interior secretary, Rafael Alunan, also recommended that the Quezon City government suspend its engineer, Alfredo Macapugay, until the government completed its investigation. Mr. Macapugay's office is responsible for ensuring that building and fire safety codes are observed.

Staff members at Mr. Macapugay's office said Wednesday that he had gone "on leave of absence."

About 400 people were in the Ozone nightclub when it caught fire early Tuesday, even though its permit allowed for only a 10th that number. The disco's emergency exit had been blocked by a building erected against it, and many of the dead were found trapped in front of the single narrow front entrance.

"Obviously, the fire exits were not inspected," said Ismael Mathay, the mayor of Quezon City. "This was undoubtedly a deathtrap."

Critics quickly called for stronger safety inspections.

"We cannot just bury the dead and wait for the next stupid tragedy to strike," Senator Francisco Tatad said.

"Some corrupt officials are obviously making a killing on their nonenforcement" of existing safety laws, he added.

Amid the recriminations, families of 71 of the dead went about the grim task of identifying the charred bodies.

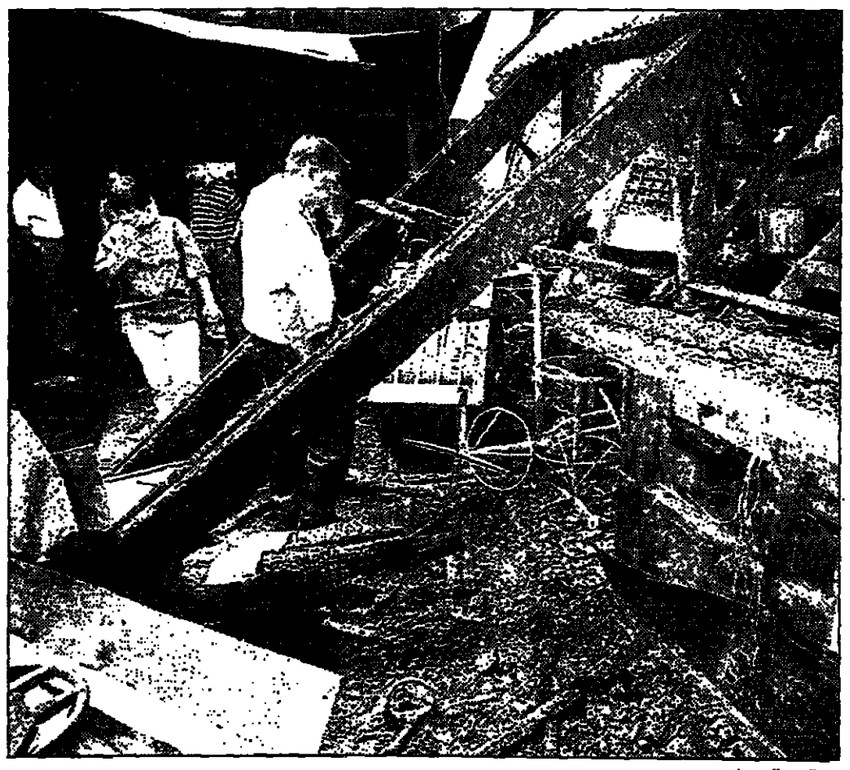
"As of today only 80 have been properly identified," a police official said Wednesday.

Most of the people at the disco were students celebrating the end of the Philippine school year.

An investigators' report said the blaze was caused by a short-circuit that resulted from the overloading of a circuit. "The fire spread rapidly along the ceiling as the insulation was ignited," the report said.

The chief of the immigration commission, Leandro Verceles, ordered officials at all airports and seaports to place the president and four other officers of the company that owns the disco on the "hold departure list."

The owner of the company, Hermilo Ocampo, said he would cooperate with the inquiry. *(Reuters, AFP)*



Agence France-Presse

Fire investigators inspecting the Ozone disco Wednesday, where 151 revelers died in a fire.

Sworn In, Bangladesh Prime Minister Calls Out Troops

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

DHAKA, Bangladesh — As Prime Minister Khalida Zia's cabinet approved a bill calling for new parliamentary elections under a "nonparty government," thousands of troops took up positions Wednesday in the main cities of Dhaka and Chittagong, which had been crippled by an opposition-led strike.

Begum Zia called out the troops after her swearing-in for a second term Tuesday triggered fierce battles between the police and protesters trying to storm the Parliament building in Dhaka.

"This is not a state of emergency or martial law," said a commander, Major General Azizur Rahman. "Troops have been deployed just to help civil administration."

Soldiers took up positions in a community center in central Dhaka, and armed troops patrolled nearby areas in jeeps.

Troops were also seen escorting tanker trucks and vehicles with red banners reading "emergency fuel supply."

Defense Ministry officials said that the military, which had been preparing for deployment for several weeks, was also likely to be posted at strategic points across the country to ensure security at government offices and key businesses and along major highways.

There have been numerous military coups since Bangladesh was founded in 1971, but the army has largely stayed out of politics since democracy was restored in general elections in 1991. Begum Zia's party won the elections.

The strike is part of a two-year effort to unseat Begum Zia.

Opposition groups, led by Sheikh Hasina Wazed's Awami League, began their "noncooperation" campaign March 9 demanding that the elections of Feb. 15 be annulled and that new elections be held under a neutral caretaker government.

Opposition parties boycotted the elections, which gave Begum Zia's Bangladesh Nationalist Party 308 out of 330 seats in the Parliament that was sworn in Tuesday.

There has been no firm response from opposition leaders to Begum Zia's proposal for new elections. But they had demanded that new elections be held, while saying that free and fair balloting was impossible under a Zia government.

The approval of the nonparty elections bill came at the first and special meeting of the 27-member cabinet sworn in Tuesday, the official BSS news agency said.

The bill goes next before Parliament, which is scheduled to meet Thursday. If passed, the constitution requires that it then be approved in a referendum. *(Reuters, AFP)*

North Koreans Feed on Leaves

Agence France-Presse

GENEVA — North Koreans are eating leaves and walking barefoot in freezing weather, but their country is not on the verge of political upheaval, Kjell Madsen of Norway, a UN aid expert, said Wednesday.

BRIEFLY ASIA

China Claims Right to Ban Elected Hong Kong Body

BEIJING — A panel selected by Beijing to frame the future of Hong Kong after the territory's 1997 return to China formally declared Wednesday its right to appoint a provisional assembly to replace the colony's present elected Legislative Council.

The statement was made at the first session of the Provisional Legislative Council panel, which is subsidiary to the Preparatory Committee that was established by Beijing to decide issues on Hong Kong's future under Chinese rule. The panel said that the Preparatory Committee, which is made up of Hong Kong businessmen, Chinese officials and pro-Beijing figures in Hong Kong, "has the right to make the decision to establish the Provisional Legislative Council." *(AFP)*

Cambodia Army Builds Road To Press Attack on Guerrillas

PHNOM PENH (Reuters) — Cambodian government forces are carving a road through thick forest to speed their push on a key Khmer Rouge guerrilla base in the northwest of the country, army film footage seen Wednesday showed.

The army footage, shot between Saturday and Monday, shows an excavator and a bulldozer smashing through bamboo thickets and other dense vegetation east of Pailin, and soldiers cutting down trees with chain saws.

"We are making this road in order to attack the Khmer Rouge," a soldier tells the cameraman. "It is 2.5 kilometers long and six meters wide and crosses four streams. The importance of this road is to carry soldiers and food." *(Reuters)*

Tamils Report Losses in Clash

COLOMBO — Tamil separatists said Wednesday that 10 senior guerrillas had died in a gunboat battle with government forces in northwestern Sri Lanka.

The clandestine radio of the separatist Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam said the 10 died in an engagement Friday involving one navy vessel and a flotilla of rebel gunboats off the coast of Mannar. *(AFP)*

Ship Sinks With Pyongyang Aid

ROME — A Chinese-registered freighter carrying food aid to North Korea sank in the Taiwan Strait, the UN World Food Program said Wednesday.

The UN agency said 15 crew were missing from the vessel Cheng Da, which it had chartered to deliver rice to North Korean flood victims. Nine other crew were rescued, the Rome-based agency said. *(Reuters)*

For the Record

China will invite bids from foreign firms this year for 26 turbine generators with a capacity of 700 megawatts for the huge Three Gorges dam project, the Xinhua press agency said Wednesday. *(Reuters)*

Afghan Taleban fighters have razed a 40-year-old cinema in Kandahar, their headquarters in southern Afghanistan, to build a mosque on the site, their spokesman said Wednesday. *(AFP)*

VOICES From Asia

President Fidel V. Ramos of the Philippines on signing into law a bill certifying lethal injection as the method of capital punishment: "Let the criminals beware. The state will continue to pursue criminals without let-up and will not hesitate to execute those upon whom the death sentence has been imposed." *(AFP)*

Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao, of India, invoking the slain Prime Minister Rajiv Ghandi as he starts campaigning for general elections: "You have given an absolute majority to Rajiv Gandhi. We also deserve the same as we are real followers and ardent admirers of his policies and ideals." *(AFP)*

مكتبة امن الاصل

EUROPE

Britain Shifts on Mad Cow Disease, Hinting at Link to Humans

By John Darnton
New York Times Service

LONDON — Reversing ground on a major health issue, the British government said Wednesday that there might be a link between what is known as mad cow disease and the degenerative and fatal brain disease that is its human equivalent.

Apparently mindful of an ever-widening scare among consumers that British beef may be unsafe, Health Secretary Stephen Dorrell said there was "no scientific proof" that the disease in cows, which is called bovine spongiform encephalopathy, can be transmitted to humans through beef.

But then he told a stunned House of Commons that a committee of scientists set up to advise the government had identified a new strain of the disease in humans, which is called Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease.

"The most likely explanation," Mr. Dorrell said, is that this strain is caused by exposure to the bovine disease. So far 10 people have been infected by this new strain, he indicated.

The move was an embarrassing about-face for the government. Since 1990, when concern first arose, it has insisted that there is no link between the two diseases or that, even if one were established, measures were in place to keep out of the human food chain those parts of cattle carcasses likely to cause infection.

To drive the point home that British beef was "perfectly safe," John Gummer, then agriculture minister, posed for television cameras while feeding a hamburger to his 4-year-old daughter Cordelia.

Now the government is admitting that the link may in fact exist, while asserting that, as Mr. Dorrell put it, "the risk from eating beef is now likely to be extremely small."

It is expected that the shift will be another blow to Britain's farmers, who have witnessed a 12 percent decline in the sale of beef over the last five years. Last year Germany, a European Union trading partner, tried unsuccessfully to ban British beef.

The government's new stand was hotly denounced by the opposition Labor Party. Its spokeswoman on health, Harriet Harman, rose in the House to say that "public confidence on this issue is hanging by a thread" and that "the time has passed for false assurances" or for "photo ops of ministers feeding their children beefburgers."

"The conclusion that stares the British public in the face is that there may well be a link" between the two diseases, she asserted.

Signs that the scare is far from over abound. Wednesday's edition of the mass circulation Daily Mirror, which predicted the government statement on its front page, had a screaming headline: "Mad Cow Can Kill You."

The article below said some experts believe that more than 1 million infected animals may have already been consumed in Britain.

The fears are exacerbated because there is a long incubation period, of 10 to 40 years, for Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease, raising the possibility that some people may have been infected by it but not yet begun to show symptoms.

Bovine spongiform encephalopathy was only discovered in 1986.

While both it and Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease remain something of a biological enigma, the two were thought to be related because they have the same pathology. Both attack and destroy the brain in the same way, ending in death.

An early theory said that a virus or virus-like agent was the cause, but more recently some medical researchers have advanced a theory that relates the diseases to an abnormal protein in the cell membrane — presumably transmitted through the consumption of infected tissue — which sets off a chain reaction to damage other proteins nearby.

A major question is why British beef may be particularly susceptible.

One theory is that the bovine disease can be traced to the disease of scrapie in sheep and that it somehow leaped the species barrier here. If that is so, many experts believe, it is because for years bone and meat remnants from sheep — including brains — were ground up and fed to cows as a protein supplement. This practice has now stopped.

"Most of these infectious agents can go from one mammal to another mammal," said Robert Lacey, professor of microbiology at Leeds University, who was among the first to raise the alarm six years ago. "There's a 70 percent chance it will move on to another species. And now there are signs we are seeing the beginning of a human epidemic."

In speaking to Parliament, Mr. Dorrell, the health secretary, said that a special government surveillance unit headquartered in Edinburgh to track Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease had "identified a previously unrecognized, and consistent disease pattern" suggested a new strain.

A French Police Mystery: Suicides

Officers Said to Be Unhappy, Stressed-Out Scapegoats

By Barry James
International Herald Tribune

PARIS — When constabulary's duty's to be done in France these days, the policeman's lot is not a happy one.

According to their union, French police officers are depressed, stressed, overworked, underpaid and likely to be suicidal.

Last year a record 60 police officers between the ages of 25 and 55 killed themselves — 50 percent more than the average for each year since 1988.

At least 14 have taken their lives this year, including a female police officer who also shot her three children. That happened in a town, Beauvais, where five members of the 75-person forces have committed suicide in the last 30 months.

On Monday, a 36-year-old officer was found hanging in his garage near the northern city of Arras. This followed by two days the suicide of a lieutenant in a Paris suburb. The suicides have occurred across the country, and not only in the tough big city areas where the job is most stressful.

Jean-Louis Debré, the interior minister, said this week that the number of police officers taking their lives was not proportionately greater than for the population as a whole. But this explanation did not account for the fact that there has been a disproportionately large number of deaths in certain towns, such as Beauvais.

During a visit to the station house where two officers recently committed suicide, Mr. Debré promised that the force would lend a more sympathetic ear to the problems of rank and file members.

He explained that he would hire more psychologists to add to the 23 already working for the force, bring in social workers and order police doctors to pay greater attention to the stress-related problems faced by the men and women in uniform.

According to their union spokesman, the police have become the scapegoats for mounting social ills in French society.

In the drab suburbs surrounding major cities, the police are called on to deal with problems ranging from racial conflicts to drug wars. They have become used to coming under hails of stones and other projectiles — and sometimes bullets. Last year, police in some Paris districts were issued flak jackets, rubber-bullet guns and high-powered cars to respond to violence in the suburbs.

In one measure of the dissatisfaction in the force, an increasing number of ordinary police and detectives are turning to the anti-immigration National Front. Extreme right parties won 13.4 percent of the vote in internal union elections in December.

France has about 94,000 uniformed policemen and 24,000 detectives, in addition to 92,000 gendarmes, who come under the Defense Ministry and are predominantly based in rural areas. The gendarmes also have a serious suicide problem.

Tough conditions of service and the increasing violence of modern society are not the only reasons why so many law officers are taking their lives. Jean-Louis Arajol, a leader of the main police union, said many police officers are badly housed and in debt because of their modest basic pay of about 7,500 francs ($1,500) a month.

Mr. Arajol also charged dehumanization and alienation in the force, with its military-style command structure. Police officers, he said, are judged quantitatively — on the number of tickets they issue, for example — rather than qualitatively.

They see station houses closed while private security firms are increasing. Their workload has increased substantially with the emergency measures put in place because of a series of terrorist bombings last year. And when things go wrong, often for personal reasons, some police officers turn to their service revolvers instead of seeking the support of colleagues or superiors.

Olivier Hoslet/Reuters

FATAL BELGIAN PILEUP — Wreckage from a 28-vehicle chain-reaction crash covering the E42 highway Wednesday between Namur and Liège. Two people were killed and four injured in the accident in dense fog.

EUROPEAN TOPICS

France's Parliament Trying To Pump Down the Volume

"We're creating a generation of deaf people and we're not doing anything about it." Goaded by such stark warnings, the French Parliament has voted to require manufacturers of Walkman-style portable tape-players to place a warning label on their products about possible hearing damage and to restrict maximum volume levels.

A 1991 study cited in Parliament found that more than three-quarters of young people own such a tape player; that average listening time is seven hours a week, that 20 percent of young owners say they always listen at full volume, which can mean up to 130 decibels, and that 25 percent of people who use the devices regularly suffer measurable hearing loss.

Jean-François Mattei, a French deputy who is also a pediatrician, said that constant listening at volumes above 100 decibels can cause irreversible lesions of the inner ear. The current generation of young people, he warned, could suffer at a relatively early age the sort of hearing loss more common among older people.

A few manufacturers already make models that limit output to 100 decibels. But the new French restrictions may be in vain: Sound levels can be boosted by using sensitive headsets and the tape players can be brought into France from neighboring countries that have no such restrictions.

Around Europe

British house-buyers are increasingly calling on private detectives to warn or reassure them about their future neighbors. "We have had triple the requests in the past year" for such work, Richard Jacques-Turner, president of the Association of British Investigators, told The Sunday Times. "It's because society has broken down, prompting people to find better ways of safeguarding their family." In the last seven years, 17 murders and suicides in Britain were reported to have followed disputes with neighbors over noise.

Detectives will do a cursory background check, including a survey of criminal records and quick interviews with the postman and paperboy, for about £50 ($75). But civil libertarians say such inquiries constitute an invasion of privacy. And, as one advocate of privacy pointed out, two weeks after the new arrivals move in, the neighbors could move out "and then the neighbors from hell could replace them."

A sperm whale found dead off the Danish coast in January contained so much mercury and cadmium that its intestine had to be buried at a special site for hazardous waste, a local radio station reported this week. The mammal was found at the tip of the Jutland Peninsula, in busy waters between Sweden and Norway. Authorities are trying to determine the source of the toxic metals, which they figure the whale must have ingested not long before its death.

For Günter Heinrich Woog, the day doesn't start until noon — mailmen and phone callers are most decidedly unwelcome before that time. And yet this 41-year-old German has found time to produce a new newspaper, DELTA times, for people like himself: late sleepers. In its first issue, the journal devotes harsh criticism to early school starting hours — a burden on those who function at less than full speed before midday. "Creative potential remains untapped," Mr. Woog says, "because by the time we wake up, the early birds have already eaten all the worms."

International Herald Tribune

BRIEFLY EUROPE

German Police on Alert For Kurdish Holiday

BONN — German security forces went on alert Wednesday after senior officials warned that the outlawed Kurdistan Workers' Party would step up its campaign of political violence to mark the Kurdish new year on Thursday.

The police geared up nationwide to enforce bans on planned Kurdish demonstrations, aiming to prevent more violence after hundreds were hurt in clashes with the police last weekend. Kurdish organizations had planned torchlight processions and demonstrations across Germany on Wednesday and Thursday, and several were banned.

The police in the state of Baden-Wuerttemberg said they had detained 77 suspected leaders of the Kurdistan party to prevent them from organizing violence during the celebrations. *(Reuters)*

French Debate Defense

PARIS — Opening debate on a sweeping defense overhaul, Prime Minister Alain Juppé told legislators Wednesday that the plan to establish a professional army would result in a more efficient French military.

He spoke at the start of a debate over President Jacques Chirac's ambitious program to abolish the draft and create a professional military within six years.

The plan would also slash the number of soldiers from the current 500,000 to 350,000. The number of bases in France and overseas territories would drop from 124 to 84. Mr. Juppé said that a budget of 185 billion francs ($37 billion) would ensure that France will remain "at the top of the European powers in terms of defense." But Socialist deputies criticized the planned reforms as too expensive — at least 50 billion francs in aid to cities where military garrisons will be closed. *(AP)*

Bond Plan Angers Dini

MILAN — A campaign promise by the center-right Freedom Alliance to sweep away a tax on treasury bills held by millions of Italians received an angry reception from centrist and leftist politicians Wednesday.

Prime Minister Lamberto Dini, whose centrist party is allied with the center-left Olive Tree coalition in the election April 21, said the plan would make bonds so attractive it could damage the productive sector of the economy. *(Reuters)*

Calendar

European Union events on Thursday:

BRUSSELS: Telecommunications ministers meet to discuss the linking of networks.

BRUSSELS: The commissioner for relations with East European countries, Hans Van den Broek, meets Prime Minister Hassan Muratovic of Bosnia and the managing director of the World Bank, Caio Koch-Weser.

FLORENCE: Foreign ministers meet Central American counterparts.

PARIS: The commission president, Jacques Santer, visits President Jacques Chirac and Prime Minister Alain Juppé of France.

Sources: Agence Europe, AFP

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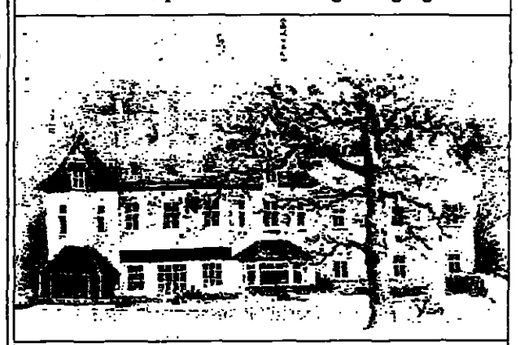

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NATO Steps Up Patrols In Tense Sarajevo Area

Reuters

SARAJEVO, Bosnia-Herzegovina — NATO stepped up its presence Wednesday in a tense Sarajevo neighborhood where Muslims and Serbs dispute their dividing line and where recent gunfire and an explosion rocked residents.

A NATO spokesman, Major Simon Haselock, said "We've ordered a stepped up presence" in support of the UN International Police Task Force.

A UN police spokesman, Alexander Ivanko, said that the situation in the former Olympic village of Dobrinja had deteriorated significantly. "Our monitors report gunfire and a car which blew up, killing its occupant," he said.

"We have unconfirmed reports of guns being smuggled in to the Serb population there," he said. "It is certainly the most tense area around Sarajevo. We have 31 monitors working in the area and we are patrolling around the clock."

Major Haselock said earlier that Bosnian government troops had substantially withdrawn from a demilitarized zone in Sarajevo on Wednesday, and that NATO had intervened to prevent Bosnian Army troops and Bosnian Croat militia from trying to occupy the same two barracks in Butila and Blazuj, west of Sarajevo. "The Bosnian Army appears to be in substantial compliance with its obligations under the Dayton agreement as regards withdrawing," the major said.

The peace accord reached in Dayton, Ohio, requires all forces to withdraw from a four-kilometer demilitarized "zone of separation" on either side of the boundary between Bosnia's Serbian republic and its Muslim-Croat federation. Serbian and Croatian forces pulled out of the zone as required, but the Muslim-dominated Bosnian Army requested a last-minute waiver in the Sarajevo zone, which NATO refused.

Only on Tuesday, the last day on which it could occupy the area, did the Bosnian Army begin to move an estimated 4,500 troops, some heavy weapons and support units, including their headquarters. By Wednesday afternoon Tito barracks in Sarajevo was virtually deserted, although some soldiers in civilian clothes were still loading office furniture onto trucks.

Two districts of Sarajevo, known as Dobrinja 1 and Dobrinja 4, were battlefields during the 43-month-long war and remain divided between Muslims and Serbs. Although both sides have withdrawn forces from the front lines, a de facto boundary exists. It is about 200 meters (220 yards) north of a formal dividing line established in Dayton. Under the Dayton accord, the line can be adjusted, but so far the two sides have been unable to agree on doing so.

Odd Andersen/Agence France-Presse

Gypsies culling rubbish Wednesday at a dump site in Piscavica, Boznia-Hezegovina, west of Tuzla. The dump receives most of the garbage generated by NATO forces in the Tuzla area.

BOSNIA: *Pentagon Warns of Trouble When NATO Leaves*

Continued from Page 1

withdrawal of peacekeeping troops.

"There's only so much our soldiers can accomplish," said another senior Defense Department official, echoing the report's central findings.

"The military forces agreed to keep the peace for a year, and that's what we're doing. But this peace will not hold without an effort to rebuild the country.

That's not being done yet. And that's not our job."

The job of organizing the economic and political reconstruction of Bosnia has been left to a European delegation led by Carl Bildt, a former Swedish prime minister.

But Mr. Bildt has complained repeatedly in recent months that foreign governments have been slow to make available the billions of dollars needed for civilian reconstruction — everything from building bridges to printing election ballots — and that the political component of the peace effort is lagging far behind its military component.

In a meeting this month with donor countries, he pleaded with them to "do more to honor the pledges we have made."

While questioning whether Bosnia was about to dissolve once again into civil war, General Hughes said in his report that "in the short term, we are optimistic" about the situation faced by the 18,400 U.S. soldiers stationed there as part of the peacekeeping force.

"We believe that the former warring factions will continue to generally comply with the military aspects" of the peace accord, the report said. "We do not expect U.S. or allied forces to be confronted by organized military resistance."

The threat faced by the U.S. forces would come instead from land mines "and from various forms of random, sporadic low-level violence," the report said. "This could include high-profile attacks by rogue elements or terrorists."

So far only one U.S. soldier has been killed in Bosnia, an army sergeant who was killed in an explosion Feb. 3 as he tried to disarm a land mine.

The report suggested that if the civil war resumes, it will flare up only after the NATO forces have pulled out, removing the buffer that has kept the factions at peace for most of the last four months.

"The overall strategic political goals of the former warring factions have not fundamentally changed," General Hughes said.

NATO: *A Blunt Warning to Moscow*

Continued from Page 1

and afterward. While the United States would have to work with any elected Russian leader, they said, it would be up to that leader "to join with Western institutions, which are open to Russia, or to isolate Russia," as one official said.

While denying that the U.S. government now thinks that the Communist Party leader, Gennadi Zyuganov, will win the election, senior American officials said that "this is a time for clarity and steadiness." They said Mr. Christopher was amplifying Mr. Yeltsin's own concerns, "and putting down another marker for the future, whatever that is."

The host of the meeting, Foreign Minister Josef Zieleniec of the Czech Republic, said that the U.S. engagement "in Central and Eastern Europe is important for us and for the stability of the whole area" as "a guarantee of freedom, democracy and peace."

Less than high praise would have been surprising in this setting, but Mr. Zieleniec said that Mr. Christopher came at an important moment, when "Russia is seeking new ways of approaching the enlargement of NATO in a more open way."

■ Yeltsin Gains in Survey

President Yeltsin has strengthened his electoral position as the possible alternative to Mr. Zyuganov, in the June presidential elections, according to new polls made public Wednesday, The Washington Post reported from Moscow.

The polls suggest that Mr. Yeltsin's increased visibility might allow him to qualify for the runoff election against Mr. Zyuganov.

Could Stravinsky Get U.S. Papers?

Bill May Bar Foreign Artists From Permanent Residency

By Eric Schmitt
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — By nearly all accounts, Karen Zacarias seems destined for success in U.S. theatrical circles. Since writing her first prize-winning dramatic comedy five years ago as a student at Stanford University, the Mexican has won acclaim for plays produced in theaters from Iowa to Massachusetts.

But even though her application for permanent residency in the United States was sponsored by Derek Walcott, the Nobel Prize-winning poet, Ms. Zacarias may be forced to leave the United States in June when her student visa expires.

A little-noticed provision tucked into the sweeping immigration bill making its way through Congress would alter existing law to make it more difficult, if not impossible, for Ms. Zacarias and scores of other talented young writers, sculptors, singers, dancers and artists from immigrating to the United States under special residency visas. Many arts and cultural organizations fear that the provision, if adopted, could block future Stravinskys and Balanchines from developing their talents in the United States. "Obviously, it's a very short-sighted and narrow interpretation of what is important in the world of art," said Gerald Freedman, dean of the drama school at the North Carolina School of the Arts and a former artistic director of the New York Shakespeare Festival.

'There are not playwright institutes that hire playwrights.'

Marc Scorca, chief executive for Opera America, a trade organization for opera companies, said: "We're talking about a handful of people, but in the opera world they are key to a $500 million industry."

Since 1990, the United States has allowed a small but important infusion of foreign scientists, artists and entrepreneurs to become permanent legal residents if they demonstrate through prizes and expert recommendations an "exceptional ability." These immigrants need an employer sponsor or a waiver to the Labor Department requirement that they not displace an American worker.

Last year, the Immigration and Naturalization Service granted legal residency to 6,800 foreigners of exceptional ability or with advanced professional degrees. The agency does not break out the categories, but immigration lawyers estimate that this includes scores of artists.

Under current law, people in the arts are generally exempted from the rule about having a job offer and the Labor Department requirement if they can demonstrate that their work is in the "national interest."

The proposed legislative change would deny immigrants with exceptional ability the right to apply for the waiver on cultural grounds.

"They'd be welcome to come as long as they could show they're not taking a job from an American citizen," the main author of the House immigration bill, Representative Lamar S. Smith, Republican of Texas, said of the artists and dancers.

But unlike scientists or engineers, artists and dancers are likely to be self-employed.

"There are not playwright institutes that hire playwrights," said Ms. Zacarias, who attended high school in Atlanta, where her father was a public-health specialist. "I don't have a Pulitzer under my belt. I'd just like the chance to prove myself."

Since the 1990 law has been in effect only five years, few young artists have risen to national fame. But the legislation's beneficiaries include a range of up-and-coming artistic talent.

Take Shanjie (Carl) Deng, a 33-year-old Chinese poet and expert on Chinese culture who was granted legal residency in December. Three years ago, Mr. Deng followed his wife to Louisville, Kentucky, where she was completing graduate school.

Mr. Deng became affiliated with Crane House, a cultural association in Louisville that promotes awareness of Chinese culture in public schools in a program serving more than 15,000 students.

"Children here are not exposed to a lot of different cultures, so this was a cultural awakening," said Judy Thomas, one of the organizers of a three-week course that Mr. Deng taught at an elementary school.

Zoë Heller, 30, a British journalist who has written for The New Yorker and Vanity Fair, is seeking permanent legal residency in the United States so she does not have to rely on the sponsorship of any one publication.

Denying artists the waivers to the Labor Department requirement will only hurt American interests, said Tania Alvarez, an immigration lawyer in San Francisco who is representing a Cuban author of children's books who is seeking permanent legal residency.

"We're going to miss out on some exceptional people," Ms. Alvarez said.

IRAQ: *UN Suspects Baghdad Is Concealing Scuds With Germ Warheads*

Continued from Page 1

during the 1980s. Scuds were fired by Iraq from mobile launchers at Saudi Arabia and Israel during the 1991 Gulf War, with warheads consisting of conventional explosives.

But at one point a few months before the war began, Iraq filled 25 Scud warheads with botulinum toxin and bacteria capable of causing anthrax disease, each of which is among the most deadly substances known and can kill in extremely small quantities. After the August 1995 defection of a senior weapons official forced Iraq to admit to making the warheads, it claimed that they were all destroyed in 1991.

Since then, however, Iraq has failed to turn over documents to corroborate this claim, such as orders to carry out the destruction or reports that the action had been successfully carried out, Mr. Ekeus said.

"All our experience is that these decisions are carefully registered" in Iraq documents, indicating that the Iraqi claims may simply be false, he said.

A U.S. official said that Washington shared Mr. Ekeus's concerns. Referring to Baghdad's acknowledgment that the warheads had been made, the official said:

"Seven months after Iraq's admission, there are still no documents to verify their destruction. Your suspicion has to grow that they still exist."

The CIA director, John M. Deutch, told the subcommittee on Wednesday that Baghdad's recent actions in delaying U.S. inspectors for several hours at legitimate inspection sites were "a clear indication that Iraqi government policy is to continue to frustrate and hinder the inspection process."

"Such delays, if they become routine, will give Iraqi officials ample opportunity to destroy relevant documents, remove suspect material, and ultimately prevent the UN. from attaining a full and complete accounting" of Iraq's weapons efforts, Deutch said.

■ Diversion of Nuclear Fuel

News services reported from Washington:

On another topic of concern, Mr. Deutch told the senators that diversion of nuclear-weapons fuel from former Soviet republics was a threat, and that Iran and other countries had tried to obtain some of it. But he said no country or terror group was known to have obtained any.

"The prospects of nuclear diversion from Russia is a major national security threat to the United States," he said.

"There are serious customers for strategic nuclear materials who are up to no good," Mr. Deutch said. "The general picture this should convey is how lucky we are and what a danger this is." He said that Iraq and North Korea had made enormous efforts to develop their own fuel for nuclear weapons, and he said that some countries had explored the possibility of buying nuclear weapons or materials. "Prominent examples include Iran and Iraq, to a lesser extent North Korea and Libya," he said.

Asked by Senator Sam Nunn, a Georgia Democrat, if Syria was on that list, Mr. Deutch replied, "They are not on the list I have mentioned to you this morning, no sir."

"What list are they on?" Mr. Nunn asked. Mr. Deutch said he could make no further comment in public.

Mr. Deutch said nuclear-weapons material smuggled out of Russia and seized in Germany and the Czech Republic was not enough for the production of a nuclear weapons.

And he added that the CIA had no evidence any fissile material had been acquired by a terrorist organization.

He said Iran was trying to produce plutonium and highly enriched uranium along with a parallel effort to acquire technology from Russia, China and Kazakstan, Deutch said.

Iranian agents unsuccessfully approached a plant in Kazakhstan in 1992 to obtain enriched uranium, he said.

"We estimate that Iran is some years away from producing a nuclear weapon, but with extensive foreign assistance or receipt of a significant amount of nuclear materials, Iran could produce a weapons much quicker than if left to its own capabilities," he testified.

Iraq has not abandoned its nuclear program, although it was significantly damaged in the Gulf War; North Korea has produced enough plutonium for one and possibly two nuclear weapons, and Libya operates a small Soviet-supplied nuclear research center near Tripoli, Mr. Deutch said. He said Libya was trying to recruit nuclear scientists to assist in developing nuclear weapons.

Mr. Deutch said the Russians had made efforts to tighten security at nuclear sites and that, so far, despite lax security, there had not been a verified case of the smuggling of nuclear material in sufficient quantities to produce a bomb. *(AP, Reuters, AFP)*

Russians Condemn Sanctions on Cuba

Reuters

MOSCOW — Russian lawmakers criticized Wednesday a new U.S. law tightening sanctions against Cuba and vowed that Moscow would step up cooperation with the island.

Deputies in the Federation Council, the upper house of the Russian Parliament, approved a resolution condemning the U.S. legislation as a violation of international law and the rules of international trade, the Interfax news agency reported.

"The majority of states in the world community see the embargo against Cuba and measures to strengthen it as violations of the rights of sovereign states in the free development of trade and economic cooperation with other countries," the resolution said.

It said that the U.S. action "does not help the normalization of the situation in the region" and that Russia was determined to build economic relations with Cuba.

The law, signed by President Bill Clinton after Cuban warplanes shot down two small civilian planes, aims to block new foreign investment by targeting companies that do business in Cuba.

Numerous U.S. allies, including Canada, Caribbean nations and the European Union, have criticized the law, saying it treats foreign investors unfairly. The Russian Foreign Ministry has said it hopes the law will not affect relations with Havana.

Suicide Bomber Kills Israeli in Lebanon

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

MARJAYOUN, Lebanon — A Hezbollah suicide bomber hurled himself at an Israeli military convoy in southern Lebanon on Wednesday, killing an army officer and triggering a heavy artillery duel.

An Israeli military spokesman said that an army captain was killed and that an Israeli civilian was wounded in the suicide attack near the village of Rub Tlateen, 4 kilometers (2.5 miles) from Lebanon's border with Israel.

The military convoy stopped after a suspicious man was spotted on the side of the road, the spokesman said. The man approached the convoy and blew himself up near the leading jeep.

Hours after the suicide bombing, sources in the Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army militia said guerrillas set off a bomb near a militia patrol, wounding a militiaman. He died later in the hospital, they added.

After the suicide attack, up to 400 rounds of Israeli mortar, artillery and tank fire forced United Nations peacekeepers in some areas to take shelter, and several houses took direct hits.

Israeli helicopters fired heavy machine guns Wednesday night at Hezbollah strongholds in the Bekaa, the valley in eastern Lebanon that is under Syrian control.

Prime Minister Shimon Peres warned that Israel would retaliate for a series of Hezbollah attacks since the start of March.

"We are not leading a policy of restraint in Lebanon," he said during a visit to a Haifa hospital where 10 soldiers wounded in the southern Lebanon attack were being treated. "We will hit Hezbollah when the time is right and in the appropriate way."

Mr. Peres said Israel "determines its policy and its means of action on the basis of what is happening on the ground."

He called earlier for a halt to Syrian backing for Hezbollah guerrillas before the two countries can resume peace negotiations.

"Israel will not accept a situation where there are peace negotiations with Syria while Damascus is supporting Hezbollah," he said.

"One of the conditions for signing a peace accord with Syria is a halt to the Hezbollah operations."

After the suicide bombing, Prime Minister Rafik Hariri of Lebanon said that guerrilla resistance against Israeli occupation was justified and that any Israeli military operation in Lebanon would deal a severe blow to the Arab-Israeli peace process.

Hezbollah said in a statement in Beirut that the suicide attacker had targeted "a convoy carrying some leaders of the Zionist enemy" between the villages of Oudaiseh and Rub Tlateen in the border zone. *(AFP, Reuters)*

Chernobyl Is Facing Financial Meltdown

Reuters

KIEV — The Chernobyl nuclear power station, site of the world's worst nuclear disaster, in 1986, may have to stop one of its two working reactors because it cannot afford to buy fuel, a senior official said Wednesday.

The official, Olexander Zinyuk, a top aide to Ukraine's nuclear energy authority, said Chernobyl's No. 3 reactor could be shut down as early as this weekend.

"There really is no money and therefore we have no fuel," he said. "No one is paying for electricity, and this has become a vicious circle."

FIT: *Step Up to the Scanner for Your Duds*

Continued from Page 1

But it is one thing to keep track of individual tastes or make a product from standard parts taken off the shelf. It is quite another to make something fit as snug as, well, a shoe.

"Clothing is a stemer test because everybody is unique," B. Joseph Pine 2d, the president of Strategic Horizons Inc., a consulting company in Ridgefield, Connecticut, said.

Levi Strauss & Co. has been selling custom-fit jeans at its Original Levis stories, including those in New York, for more than a year, but the measurements are done by hand. By relying on an electronic scanner, the Custom Foot takes fashion customization to the next level in holding out the prospect of a more perfect fit.

"Mass customization is the wave of the future," said an enthusiastic Jeffrey Silverman, president of the store's parent company, the Measurably Better Corp., and a longtime veteran of the shoe business. The company, also of Westport, plans to open other Custom Foot stores in the next few months at the Short Hills Mall in Millburn, New Jersey, the Roosevelt Field Mall in Garden City, New York, and the Mall of America in Bloomington, Minnesota.

Whether shoppers will be similarly enthusiastic is not yet known, of course. For one thing, how exact the fit will be is not clear, since the shoes will not be made by craftsmen who work on them from start to finish.

Instead, these shoes will be made on an assembly line whose equipment is fine-tuned to the specifications captured by the scanners.

Some marketing specialists also caution that the two-week wait for delivery may slow sales, particularly to customers who like the instant satisfaction of walking out the door with their purchases.

"This may be an idea whose time is not here yet," John Deighton, an associate professor at the Harvard Business School, said.

"Delay is the No.1 enemy of impulse shopping."

But in the limited tests so far, customers, particularly women, have shown they are willing to pay a little more and wait awhile to get clothes that really fit.

PEROT: *Despite Dole's Sweep of Primaries, Strong Hints From Reform Party's Founder*

Continued from Page 1

reacting in part to the concerns of Perot voters, would continue to press for a balanced federal budget, limits on the numbers of terms congressmen can serve and changes to reduce the influence of lobbying groups.

Republicans included many of those stands in the platform they call the "Contract for America." The positions, they say, helped them draw support from 70 percent of Perot voters in the 1994 legislative elections.

But many of the Republican goals, Democrats note, have yet to be achieved.

Governor Tommy Thompson of Illinois tacitly acknowledged that a third-party candidacy could cost Republicans the election. "I think Bill Clinton is going to be defeated if it's a two-man race,' the Republican said.

The nature of the coming campaign appears to favor a change-minded, independent candidacy. For the first time, a sitting president will be running against the Senate majority leader. Neither man can claim to be a Washington outsider, particularly not Mr. Dole, the longest-serving Senate majority leader in the century.

In addressing a long list of weighty legislative issues, each side will be weighing its actions to their impact on the elections.

The result could be the sort of thing Mr. Perot campaigned against in 1992: inside-Washington warfare, petty politicking and resultant gridlock.

Mr. Perot's appeal is thought to be somewhat less than it was in 1992, when he spent some $70 million of his own money to portray himself as an outsider who could "get things done" in Washington. Before temporarily dropping out of the race, he had risen to a virtual tie in opinion polls with George Bush and Mr. Clinton.

Nor are his issues as clear as they were, beyond a desire for change and for honest and competent government.

"I would not be surprised if he got half of what he got last time," said Forrest Maltzman, a professor of political science at George Washington University, in Washington. "But half of what he got last time is enough to make or break an election." Mr. Perot took 19 percent of the popular vote in the 1992 election.

"The best chance for Bill Clinton," said Haley Barbour, the Republican national chairman, in a reference to the outcome of the 1992 election, "is for him to slip back in the back door of the White House with 43 percent of the vote."

Mr. Perot, a hard-driving Dallas businessman, has never held public office. But he points to his enormous success in business as a reflection of what hard work, discipline and fresh ideas could accomplish in Washington.

His Reform Party has qualified for ballots in five states, including California, and party organizers are working to qualify in other states. In those where he is unable to get on the ballot, the Reform Party will petition for ballot access as an independent — as Perot did in all 50 states four years ago.

INTERNATIONAL

How Benin's Ex-Dictator Bounced Back

By Stephen Buckley
Washington Post Service

COTONOU, Benin — This country's former Marxist military ruler appeared poised to reclaim its presidency Wednesday, which would make Benin one of the few nations in sub-Saharan Africa to vote a democratically elected leader out of office.

Unofficial results indicated that Mathieu Kérékou had defeated President Nicephore Soglo, who has held office since March 1991, when he routed General Kérékou in the country's first multiparty elections. Benin, a West African nation of 6 million people, was one of the first countries on the continent to shed its single-party system for democracy.

Late Tuesday night, the national electoral commission announced that General Kérékou, who ran Benin for nearly two decades as a Marxist-Leninist dictator, led Mr. Soglo by 59 percent to 41 percent.

Sources familiar with the ballot-count suggested that the final total was likely to be closer because officials had not completed tallying votes from several areas known to be pro-Soglo.

Official results will be announced by Benin's constitutional court, the country's highest judicial authority. Nearly 90 percent of the country's 2.5 million voters reportedly took part in the vote Monday.

Political analysts here in Cotonou, the country's most populous city, said that General Kérékou's likely victory appeared to reflect the ire of voters over high unemployment and the role of Mr. Soglo's family in his administration. Mr. Soglo's relatives hold several key positions in his government.

"The perception was that this is a family government," said an analyst who asked not to be identified. "Soglo never consulted anybody apart from his family."

Beninese voters once hailed Mr. Soglo, a former World Bank economist, for rebuilding the country's economy after General Kérékou's socialist policies bankrupted the government and ignited social unrest.

But, as Mr. Soglo trimmed Benin's bureaucracy and privatized many state-owned companies, unemployment — particularly among the young — leaped, and his supporters became increasingly restive.

As a result, General Kérékou , 62, a born-again Christian who had avoided the public spotlight for much of Mr. Soglo's term, decided to challenge the incumbent, promising to retain free-market policies and political openness while tackling such issues as unemployment.

The former ruler, who is from northern Benin, the country's poorest area, also has pledged to construct a government of national unity that will try to distribute resources more equally among the country's regions.

Some analysts said it appeared that Mr. Soglo did not take General Kérékou seriously until after the first round of elections earlier this month, when the former president grabbed 33 percent of the vote to the incumbent's 35 percent.

"The Soglo camp was overconfident," one diplomat said. "They did not expect that there was this kind of opposition against the president."

Voters who supported General Kérékou said they believed Mr. Soglo had grown arrogant and increasingly out of touch with the plight of those Beninese who had not benefited from its economic comeback.

Monique Kouagou, a nursery school teacher, said she was aware of the country's struggles during General Kérékou 's regime but voted for the former ruler because, "I think he is wiser now."

After the vote Monday, General Kérékou and Mr. Soglo separately implored the Beninese to accept the eventual outcome of the election, and voters appeared ready to heed those requests.

U.S. Aide Praises Algerian Policies

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

ALGIERS — The U.S. assistant secretary of state, Robert Pelletreau, wrapping up the first visit here by an American official in four years, lauded recent elections and economic reform on Wednesday and said Washington was prepared to broaden support for the government's efforts to end the country's civil strife.

"I return to Washington with a better understanding of the current challenges Algeria is facing and the policies adopted to overcome them," he said at a news conference.

"Dialogue and democratic progress seem essential for the re-establishment of stability, and I appreciated President Zeroual's reaffirmation of his intent to move in that direction," he said.

"As the policy develops and begins to show results, we are prepared to broaden our support for it."

Mr. Pelletreau, the first senior American official to visit Algeria since 1992, met Wednesday with President Liamine Zeroual and gave him a message from President Bill Clinton. *(AP, Reuters)*

Elderly Chechens Seek A Truce to Bury Dead

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

GROZNY, Russia — Twenty elderly people who escaped a Russian siege of their village in Chechnya pleaded Wednesday for the shooting to be stopped to allow civilians still there to bury their dead and then leave.

The villagers issued their appeal in the Chechen capital, Grozny, a day after escaping from Samashki. Their town has been under attack from Russian troops since Friday in a drive to force separatist fighters out of western Chechnya.

One villager, Mohammed Isayev, said that up to 600 civilians had been killed in Samashki. "We cannot collect the bodies and bury them because of the sniper fire. Please help us to stay alive and get out of this hell," he said. He added that 5,000 civilians remained in the village.

No journalists or international aid workers have been allowed into Samashki since the attack started, and it has been impossible to verify casualty figures.

The villagers said in their appeal: "We demand help. The whole world must know what is happening in Samashki. It is no heroism to kill peaceful citizens."

They demanded that the Russian troops open a corridor to let civilians flee Samashki, which is about 30 kilometers west of Grozny.

Russia's commander in Chechnya, General Vyacheslav Tikhomirov, told the Itar-Tass news agency Wednesday that his troops had already opened up a corridor and that 2,200 civilians had left Samashki in the last 24 hours. He has said his troops were attacking only rebel positions. *(Reuters, AFP)*

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Herald INTERNATIONAL Tribune
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An End to Land Mines

Last fall, General John Shalikashvili, top Pentagon soldier, labeled land mines "indispensable." Now he is reported ready to ban them all. Apparently he has caught up to the burgeoning debate over whether mines' benefit in battle to American soldiers outweighs the costs they inflict in the far-flung places where they remain in the ground menacing innocents — and peacekeepers — after the battle is done.

For decades the United States accepted land mines as grisly but legitimate instruments of war. Public concern grew, however, as it turned out that mines were taking a terrible and endless toll in and after the Third World conflicts of the Cold War. The Pentagon turned to a high-tech halfway house, claiming that self-destructing or command-detonated, short-lived U.S. mines were acceptable, while the low-tech, long-lived mines of others were not. This is the effort that seems to be flagging now as the Pentagon considers that others prefer cheap mines of their own manufacture, and that mines clutter the humanitarian and peacekeeping sites where U.S. forces are likely to go.

Bosnia, of course, is Exhibit A. U.S. and other peacekeepers there move about in dread of an errant footfall, a condition due for springtime aggravation as winter snows no longer confine soldiers to paved and plowed roads.

The land mine review that the Pentagon is now undertaking will take some months and years to work up into policies curbing the production, use and export of these weapons and drawing other countries into the circle of restraint. But no other country is capable of exercising the requisite leadership. Senator Patrick Leahy has led a congressional drive urging the administration to reconsider the necessity and effectiveness of mines.

It must remain a first purpose of U.S. policy to provide adequate protection to military personnel in the field. The International Committee of the Red Cross has been quietly addressing this problem in its global campaign against land mines. Alternative technologies and tactics can be explored. If they do not suffice, the United States will have to look again at some of its prospective missions. The point of a land mine ban is not simply to ease the lot of civilians but to make duty safer for soldiers — American soldiers — who are now excessively and unnecessarily in harm's way.

— THE WASHINGTON POST.

Clinton Bests Dole

If voters were choosing between the Bill Clinton who ran for office in 1992 and the president who on Tuesday issued his budget plan for 1997, they would find enormous differences. That is not surprising, given that the political landscape has changed so sharply. As the Republicans have gained strength, the president has retreated from some of the core principles and programs he once embraced. One can complain that he has made some regrettable concessions, but in a broad sense he had to retreat.

Even so, the choice this year is not between the old Clinton and the new Clinton. It is between President Clinton's watered-down budget and Senator Bob Dole's even worse budget plans that were blocked by the White House.

The broad outlines of Mr. Clinton's concessions have been known for months. Some of his ideas to balance the budget in seven years are fanciful. He would cut spending largely after leaving office, in 2002, and would cut taxes only temporarily while he is in office. Political reality suggests that Congress will do the opposite by reneging on the huge spending cuts when they come due and by extending tax cuts in 2000, an election year. A balanced budget is not in the offing.

Some of the budget-cutting is misguided. The president reneges on his 1992 campaign promise to boost spending on training, education and scientific research by $20 billion a year. In this budget, public investment barely stays ahead of inflation. The only answer to inner-city blight is a modest embrace of an unproven idea — tax cuts for businesses that locate in urban ghettos. The plan makes little effort to reform the politically charged Medicare program.

But the worst concession to the Republicans is the plan's embrace of a five-year limit on cash assistance to welfare enrollees. Mr. Clinton proposed time limits two years ago, but in those days he also proposed providing public-sector jobs to parents who could not find work on their own, an idea he has now abandoned.

His budget for education and training is inadequate but far better than the Republican plan to cut these programs by about $30 billion and cut science programs by 30 percent by 2002.

On welfare, Mr. Clinton, unlike the Republicans, would preserve federally guaranteed Medicaid and welfare payments. He would also provide vouchers that welfare enrollees could use to buy housing and some other necessities for their children after they hit the five-year time limit on cash benefits.

The Republicans want an unwarranted cut in taxes on capital gains, but Mr. Clinton wants to close loopholes that allow wealthy investors to evade this tax. The Republicans want the Environmental Protection Agency to largely disappear. Mr. Clinton wants to increase its enforcement budget by more than 20 percent.

Mr. Clinton's policies are far from what he promised four years ago, but they are also far better than what Mr. Dole and his colleagues have in mind.

— THE NEW YORK TIMES.

Breaking Tobacco Ranks

No public policy analyst, and perhaps no novelist, could have predicted the latest twists in the tobacco saga. The Liggett Group, smallest of America's five tobacco manufacturers, last week became the first to agree to try to settle court cases in which plaintiffs alleged harm from smoking. It did this just before the release of a court deposition from yet another witness in the separate, continuing investigation of whether tobacco chief executives were telling the truth when they told Congress they did not believe nicotine to be addictive. It is the closest thing yet to a collapse of the industry's unbroken legal and financial front — reflected, at least at first, in a tumble of tobacco stocks. What cracked the dike was not the pressure of science or of law but apparently that of high finance.

The corporate takeover expert Bennett LeBow — who controls Liggett and, with colleague Carl Icahn, has been in a proxy fight to acquire R.J. Reynolds — took the unexpected step in what is widely seen as a message to shareholders as to how he would cut future losses in a coming era that looks iffy for the tobacco industry. Simultaneously, Liggett announced that it would abide by some of the Food and Drug Administration's proposed restrictions on selling and promoting cigarettes to minors, restrictions that the rest of the industry has been fighting tooth, nail and ad campaign.

The settlements with five states break a previously united front of opposition to settling such cases. They undercut not just the tobacco industry's strategy but also its rationale for opposing regulation by the FDA. Industry opposition to the FDA has depended till now on wholesale rejection of the government's authority to regulate, which in turn means that the industry must reject the idea that nicotine is a drug, that cigarettes hook customers on that drug and that current advertising and promotion practices aim at hooking young customers.

Liggett's agreement not to engage in certain forms of advertising in which it does not engage anyway (cartoon characters and giveaway caps and sweatshirts, for instance) is, say observers, an assertion that cigarette companies can live without this kind of youth-tempting strategy. Mr. LeBow, says anti-smoking activist Michael Pertschuk of the Advocacy Institute, "didn't have the emotional ties — he was able as a sober capitalist to look at the evidence and say he's cutting his losses."

The drive for profits in a rough-and-tumble free market brings wealth on the one hand and a certain disruption of traditional values and communities on the other. But few would have expected the tobacco companies' customary way of doing business to fall victim to such ferment, or the pressures unleashed by Wall Street to blow apart the coalition that has kept cigarette companies from facing up to the consequences of the use of their product.

— THE WASHINGTON POST.

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Why It Matters Whether Yeltsin Wins or Loses

By Jim Hoagland

WASHINGTON — He has presided over a Russian military humiliation in Chechnya of epic proportions, tossed free market reformers and democrats out of his government and accommodated an increasingly xenophobic nationalism. In his long winter of retreat and betrayal, Boris Yeltsin seems to have erased any reason for Americans to hope for his re-election in June.

For the players of the game of international power politics, the Russian president has become something worse than a criminal, an incompetent or an economic nationalist. Politicians and diplomats know how to adapt for those failings in a head of state. Mr. Yeltsin today is something worse in their eyes: a loser. That quality is irremediable.

Even Russian entrepreneurs, who have profited most from the market changes Mr. Yeltsin has championed, tell him to his face that they will not lift a finger to get his polling numbers, now in the single-digit range, off the floor.

It would be better if the Communists of Gennadi Zyuganov won in June, a group of Russian businessmen told Mr. Yeltsin in a Moscow campaign meeting last month. Without the reform program he has now abandoned, Mr. Yeltsin was no better than Mr. Zyuganov, this reasoning went. The next four years will be disastrous whoever is in power. Let the Communists rule and discredit themselves fully, clearing the deck for their elimination in future elections.

The "So what?" approach is a tempting one, and not only for Russians. Mr. Yeltsin has disappointed and disillusioned his most ardent supporters around the world. The butchery in Chechnya has canceled the moral authority he gained by helping break Soviet tyranny. There is great moral satisfaction to be had in washing one's hands of this authoritarian buffoon.

There are short-term practical advantages for some in a Zyuganov victory. A Communist restoration would ease pressures to cut American defense spending. It would be a godsend for the Republican presidential nominee looking for foreign policy issues. European governments more comfortable dealing with predictable apparatchiks than with the mercurial Mr. Yeltsin might shed few tears over his disappearance.

But now, just as Mr. Yeltsin is on the ropes, his foes come forward to spotlight the one reason it is in American interests that he be re-elected, and why President Bill Clinton was right to push the International Monetary Fund to provide new financial support for Mr. Yeltsin's government last month.

By getting the Duma to adopt a recent resolution repudiating the 1991 breakup of the Soviet Union and calling for its voluntary reconstitution, the Communists have underscored why a Zyuganov victory would be destabilizing for world peace.

On Ukraine and Eastern Europe, Mr. Yeltsin is as responsible and moderate as any elected Russian leader we will get. He is not perfect, but he understands the dangers of meddling with the independence of the European states that gained freedom through the breakup of the Soviet empire.

That is the judgment of Ukraine's president, Leonid Kuchma, who visited Washington a few weeks ago. In diplomatically careful but clear language in a luncheon discussion with journalists, Mr. Kuchma said that America and Western Europe, as well as his own country, should be rooting strongly for a Yeltsin victory over Mr. Zyuganov.

Mr. Yeltsin and his new foreign minister, Yevgeni Primakov, emphasize that they, too, want closer links to other former Soviet republics grouped in the Commonwealth of Independent States. But they have done little to follow up their words. Their deeds have not had negative consequences for the West.

Mr. Primakov tells aides that the Russia's most important bilateral relationship is with Ukraine, not the United States. He has refused to travel to Western capitals for bilateral meetings yet, telling Warren Christopher, British Foreign Secretary Malcolm Rifkind and others that he will not come until he has visited all of the CIS capitals.

The West can live with this deprivation. But, Mr. Kuchma suggests, the Communists would try to reconstruct their party networks in Ukraine, Poland, Hungary and elsewhere, out of habit and need. They would work to suffocate the new democracies.

Mr. Yeltsin has won his biggest victories because of the mistakes and iniquity of his opponents. They may rescue him one last time. It is too early to conclude that it makes no difference whether he wins or loses. It does.

The Washington Post.

Yeltsin Did Well to Restore Private Ownership of Land

By Philip Taubman

NEW YORK — Soviet leaders wrenched farmers from their ancestral ways and forced them into state farms, and industrialization drew millions of people to the cities, but Russians retain an almost mystical reverence for their land.

Antonina Konoplev eloquently described the attachment to me one day when I visited her collective farm in Sokolniki, an agricultural area several hundred miles southwest of Moscow. "The land is our bread," she said. "There's something intoxicating about working in the fields in the spring. You pick up the soil and it's like holding your mother's hand."

President Boris Yeltsin understands the power of the land to inspire Russians, and he invokes the soil in his campaign for re-election. He decreed this month that Russians can own their own land for the first time since the Bolsheviks seized power in 1917 and abolished private ownership of property.

Exactly how the buying and selling of land will work remains to be seen, and there is no guarantee that the privatization of real estate will prove less vulnerable to corruption than the sale of industrial assets. But just the issuance of the decree gives President Yeltsin the initiative on an issue that means a great deal to Russians in both cities and rural areas.

His action is important, in part, because the right to own land opens the way to a new, potentially profitable form of economic activity available to citizens who could not afford a share of other state assets that have been sold, including factories and businesses.

But there is much more to it than that. Land in Russia is not just something to be bought or sold. It is history and hope. It is history because the land is tied up in idealized visions of Russia's past, and it is hope because land can be a means to independence and self-reliance.

Russian literature celebrates the simplicity and dignity of rural life, investing peasants with a virtue and wisdom that no doubt existed more in the minds of the writers than in their subjects. From Turgenev to Solzhenitsyn, links to land and village are honored.

As Soviet censorship relaxed during the late 1980s, one of the sensations of the Russian stage was "Brothers and Sisters," a poignant two-part epic performed by the Maly Theater of Leningrad that lamented the establishment of collective farms and lyrically evoked the world of the village.

Every time I set foot outside Moscow in the late 1980s, when I reported from the Soviet Union, I encountered Russians in communion with the land. Where there was arable land, they were trying to raise a few vegetables on a small plot rented from a collective farm or state enterprise. Where there were woods, they were walking or picking mushrooms, or cross-country skiing in the winter. Where there were streams, they were fishing.

Russians also found a hint of freedom in the land. At places like Antonina Konoplev's collective farm, farm workers would spend their days numbly cultivating crops destined for places like Moscow and Leningrad, then would hurry home in the evening to lavish care on the tiny garden plots that supplied food for their own tables.

The gap in motivation and productivity seemed such a clear indictment of the deadening collective farm system, yet the Communist leadership, even under Mikhail Gorbachev, could not bring itself to relinquish state ownership of the land. Mr. Yeltsin's first attempt in 1993 collapsed because it established no mechanisms for the handling and recording of land sales.

His new decree is more complete, but even so the development of a robust real estate market may be slow. Many Russians who would like to own their own farms cannot afford the cost of tractors and other farming equipment. The price of land for homes and dachas will be beyond the reach of many people, and speculation is sure to be extensive.

Some Russians may be reluctant to give up the idea of communal farming, which goes far back in Russian history. This form of cooperative agriculture was twisted beyond recognition by the Soviet collectivization of farming. Still, Mr. Yeltsin has taken a historic step.

The New York Times.

In Bangkok, Who Is Strong Enough to Fix the Boom Blight?

By Thomas L. Friedman

BANGKOK — They called it "the mother of all traffic jams." The place was Bangkok. The occasion was a four-day national holiday marking the start of the rainy season in Thailand last April. Richard Frankel, an environmental engineer in Bangkok, recalled the scene:

"On Wednesday night we figured we would try to beat the traffic and get out of town. We planned to drive to Chiang Mai, 320 kilometers north, and spend the holiday there. So we packed up the car, fed everyone and took off from the house. Our plan was to drive on the expressway around Bangkok, continue out past the airport and then head north.

"We left the house at 10 P.M. The kids were asleep in the back seat, everything was perfect — until we hit the expressway. The traffic was backed up bumper to bumper for 100 kilometers. By 10 the next morning, we had only reached the airport, just a few miles from our house. Some people abandoned their cars. We finally managed to turn around and spent the holiday at home."

Bangkok represents the dark side of the Asian economic miracle. It is the story of what happens when a country imports free market capitalism without the governing structures that go with it to regulate growth.

More people per capita drive Mercedes-Benzes in Bangkok than anywhere in the world, and more people per capita cannot enjoy their cars because they are always stuck in traffic. Many Bangkok drivers won't leave home without a mobile phone and a portable potty in their car. Bangkok is a city of 10 million people with so little central planning that it has no subway system. Everybody seems to have a car or motorbike, and everybody drives. Only last year did Bangkok get its first small wastewater treatment facility, but most of the town still throws its garbage, and flushes its toilets, untreated into the city's canals.

Most people have stopped entertaining on weeknights because of the uncertainty as to when guests might arrive. "All the spontaneity of life is gone," says an environmental journalist, James Fahn. "You can't just call up and say 'Let's meet at a restaurant in 15 minutes.'"

Rich city, poor life. It is the lament of Asia's boom towns.

The traditional argument from developing countries has been, "We'll make our mess now and clean it up later when we can afford it." But, as Bangkok demonstrates, when a city grows as fast as it has, there may be no later.

Many sidewalks are already gone. There is no room left for new parks. Canals have been cemented over for new buildings. The fish in the river are dead. Half the traffic cops have respiratory problems.

The free market overran the government or grew so much richer than the government that it could buy off every environmental regulation with corruption. This country is in bad need of some Big Government.

A U.S. diplomat remarked to me: "We've just opened a dozen or so new embassies in the former Soviet Union, and our job there is to explain to people that there is something called 'a market.' Our job in Thailand is to explain to people that there is something other than the market."

I fear that in Thailand the government will never catch up to the market. The only hope is the market — that businesses here will conclude that pollution and traffic are not just environmental problems, but economic problems. A 1990 study found that Thai children, by the age of 7, had lost six points off their average IQs as a result of breathing the air in Bangkok.

As Bangkok's Governor Krisda explained to me, 10 years ago Thailand attracted foreign investment because it was a good place for cheap, unregulated labor. But now China and Vietnam are capturing those factories, and Thailand, to succeed, has to move upscale and attract the knowledge-based, high-tech industries of the 21st century.

"To have that knowledge economy we need foreign investors, and they won't come to live in a town where it takes three hours to travel somewhere by car," he said. "They will not have their kids grow up breathing bad air. In order for Thailand to get to that next stage we have to have a livable city.

"There was a time that people thought we could not develop economically if we are a green city. I don't think we can survive economically if we are *not* a green city."

The New York Times.

In Africa, Unattended Poverty Leads to Conflict

By K.Y. Amoako and James Gustave Speth

NEW YORK — If anyone needed an object lesson about the link between civil conflict and human deprivation, today's Africa provides it. The strife in Rwanda, Liberia, Sierra Leone and, most recently, Niger and Burundi are but the latest negative illustrations.

Yet on the same continent Botswana, Zimbabwe, Namibia and South Africa show us what Africa can be. Peace and development, too, are linked.

Zone of despair, or zone of hope? It is up to the governments and peoples of Africa. But it is also up to the rest of the world to help Africa tip the balance toward hope.

Africa accounts for 33 of the world's 50 poorest countries.

In Sierra Leone, where tens of thousands of people displaced by civil war struggle to keep hope alive in "temporary" camps, the average life lasts 42 years and per capita GNP is $200 a year. Average school attendance is barely one year.

In Niger, life expectancy is 45 years, there is virtually no schooling at all, and per capita GNP is $310.

Still reeling from its bloody civil war, Liberia is in a downward spiral.

If deprivation leads to war, disease, migration, refugees and need for emergency lifesaving and multinational peacekeeping, why not move to prevent conflict and its fellow plagues through development assistance? There is no good answer other than to support preventive development today so as to avoid the costs of drastic cures in the Rwandas and Liberias of tomorrow.

It is far better to land development assistance upstream rather than peacekeeping troops downstream.

We are not talking exclusively about the need for foreign funds and expertise to help solve crippling problems. We are talking about North and South helping certain African countries build the capacity to govern themselves better: openly, efficiently and accountably.

The common excuse for ignoring Africa's development needs is the presumed hopelessness of a "lost continent." But this theory just does not wash. The real experiences of Botswana, Ghana, Morocco, Namibia, Tunisia and Zimbabwe prove that policies matter and progress is within reach.

Polities and economies can be rebuilt and shaped in ways that promote growth, self-sufficiency and vitality at national, community and individual levels. After years of civil war, Mozambique and Eritrea are now zones of hope for recovery.

Africa must not be ignored. This week the United Nations and its agencies and friends have launched a major concerted initiative on Africa. It is not the first Africa initiative by the United Nations, but it may be the most crucial.

Unless urgent action is taken now, living standards will continue to plummet into absolute poverty — dying standards — for a majority of African countries. That would darken the prospects for recovery indefinitely, and definitely would fuel renewed social strife.

The UN initiative on Africa is both a rallying cry and a concrete program of action. It raises the priority of Africa on the UN agenda and thus in the eyes of the whole international community. In addition to targeted development assistance for the neediest countries, the United Nations will work closely with the Organization for African Unity to strengthen the OAU's peacekeeping capacity.

The five core goals of this campaign are:

- Basic education for all within 10 years, at a cost of $12.5 to $15 billion.
- Basic health services at the community level, at a cost of about $6.5 billion.
- Adequate safe water supply for drinking, cooking and irrigation, at a cost of $2.5 billion over the next decade.
- Capacity building in good governance, civil society and the private sector.
- Programs to achieve food security, reverse land degradation and protect soil quality. These will include special programs to support the roles of African women, who produce up to 80 percent of the total food supply and often manage the water supply.

All told, the goals of the Africa initiative will cost up to $25 billion in external assistance over a decade. The goals are achievable. Mobilizing the resources will be the first challenge, and the World Bank has agreed to take the lead.

Simultaneously, it will be necessary to alleviate Africa's external debt burden, which stood at a staggering $313 billion last year, equal to nearly two and a half times export income and 83 percent of continental GNP. Africa bears the prime responsibility to address its own debt problems through fiscal and economic management, but lenders should provide a window of relief to allow this initiative for sustainable development to have full impact.

K.Y. Amoako is executive secretary of the UN Economic Commission for Africa. James Gustave Speth is administrator of the UN Development Program. They contributed this to the International Herald Tribune.

IN OUR PAGES: 100, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO

1896: Alliance Reform

ROME — Diplomatic circles are again discussing whether to modify the Triple Alliance before it is allowed to enter another six years. Germany wants greater liberty of action to pursue her Russophile policy, which is considered both in Berlin and in Vienna to be useful in the interests of peace. This subject was discussed at the recent meeting between Count Goluchowski and Prince Hohenlohe, in view of Italy's weakened position as a military Power. German and Austrian military authorities believe that for the present Italy cannot be relied upon for serious aid in the event of a European war.

1921: Batum Occupied

CONSTANTINOPLE — Trouble has arisen between the Georgian Government and the Turkish Nationalist Government at Angora, following the occupation of Batum by 7,000 Nationalist troops. The Turks declared that they will offer armed resistance to any attempt of the Bolshevists to penetrate into Batum. The Georgian Government is in favor of the Bolshevist occupying Batum rather than the Turks.

1946: Kurds' Republic

TEHRAN — Kurdish rebels, members of the new Koomeleh party, have proclaimed a new autonomous republic in Mehabad, a town in Iran on the road between Tehran and the Irak border. The government was established some weeks ago and attacks on other cities are expected. The Soviet Union is expected to justify retaining Soviet forces in Iran because of unrest among Kurds. The Iranian government has formally protested to the United Nations Organization Security Council.

OPINION/LETTERS

U.S. Must Ratify the Ban On Chemical Weapons

By Jessica Mathews

WASHINGTON — If Washington did not have so many bones of contention with Beijing, the matter of secret transfers to Iran of materials for making chemical weapons would be getting plenty of public attention. U.S. intelligence has been tracking the transfers for several years. They include equipment to furnish ready-to-go factories for what is known to be the largest and most determined chemical weapons program in the Third World.

The poor man's weapon of mass destruction, chemical armaments are cheap to acquire, easy to hide, a better battlefield tool than biologicals and great for terror. The sense that they are a quaint relic of World War I should have been dispelled by last year's subway attacks in Tokyo and discoveries of what Saddam Hussein has been up to.

Because of dithering by the administration in its first year and by the Senate for the last two, the only counter Washington has is quiet diplomacy. The issue has to take its place in the queue with Taiwan, nuclear transfers to Pakistan, human rights problems, Tibet and piracy of intellectual property. If, instead, the Chemical Weapons Convention negotiated by the Reagan and Bush administrations had been ratified by the United States a year or three ago, U.S. options today would be quite different.

If the treaty were in force and China had ratified it (like the United States, it has signed the agreement), the transfers would be, as they are not today, illegal and subject to international sanctions. Had Iran ratified (it, too, has signed), any facility in that country would be open to inspections.

The United States has already unilaterally renounced these weapons: The agreement would make that global. It requires the destruction of existing stockpiles, removing a potential source for terrorists and renegade states of tens of thousands of tons. It cracks down on the dangerous "dual use" chemicals — those that have potential military as well as commercial uses — and after three years bans trade in them with nonmembers.

Opponents have said verification will not be airtight. This is true but misses the relevant point: It will be a vast improvement over what is possible now. Global definition of allowed and banned activities, highlighting of the most dangerous substances (no more accidental exports by companies that choose not to know about their customers' intentions), sharing of information and, above all, on-site inspections will make covert programs more difficult and costly.

The Senate Foreign Relations Committee chairman, Jesse Helms, would delay ratification at least until after difficulties in dealing with the Russians under an existing bilateral agreement are resolved. This plays directly into the hands of those in Russia who do not want chemical weapons control. If America wants Russia to get off the dime on destroying its tons of chemical weapons — whose abysmal security protection makes them a plum ripe for terrorist diversion — the way to do it is through a global commitment Russia has already agreed to.

Since arguments against the treaty on security grounds have little support, Senator Helms's staff is out trying to gin up opposition in the chemical industry. So far there have been no takers. The treaty's enforcement will burden chemical producers, but its provisions were drafted with the industry's advice and now enjoy its support.

After more than a year of stalemate, Mr. Helms is under a unanimous consent agreement to move the treaty out of his committee by the end of April. Senator Bob Dole has said he will allow a floor vote, but by then only four months will be left in the session.

If the United States fails to act, two outcomes are possible. The treaty could secure the necessary ratifications without the United States, in which case the U.S. chemical industry would be crippled by provisions intended to punish the likes of Syria and Libya. Alternatively, international support for what is universally seen as an American-pushed agreement could unravel, perhaps accelerated by political developments in Russia or China.

Drafted to bipartisan U.S. specifications, the chemical weapons treaty is a substantial bulwark against a deadly and rising threat. It has been taken for granted for much too long already.

The Washington Post.

'Right to Die' Debate Rages from Bedside to Court

By Abigail Trafford

WASHINGTON — The memory never leaves me. My father stretched out on the hospital bed, unconscious, his brain destroyed with no hope of recovery, a respirator to breathe for him, a pump inserted in his chest to take over the work of his heart. Tubes to feed him and tubes to treat him with antibiotics and other drugs. Never mind that a massive heart attack had starved his brain of oxygen.

For 10 days we agonized over this undignified dying. We were traumatized by our loss and enraged at the doctors who continued to treat my father aggressively. Finally the machines were turned off.

The right-to-die movement has come a long way since my father died more than a decade ago. Then the debate centered on stopping treatment and "pulling the plug" on mechanical life support.

Now the focus has shifted to whether physicians can help terminally ill patients end their lives by prescribing them drugs that will result in death. The language also has changed, from "letting the patient die" to "helping the patient die" and "assisted suicide" — phrases in a moral debate that rages from the bedside to the courthouse.

In a recent decision, the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco eloquently defended a person's right to receive help from physicians in determining the time and manner of death. In striking down a Washington state ban against doctors "prescribing life-ending medication for use by terminally ill, competent adults who wish to hasten their own deaths," the decision resonated with many who are afraid that they or someone they love will

MEANWHILE

be trapped in an agonizing, unnecessary prolongation of their lives.

"A competent terminally ill adult, having lived nearly the full measure of his life, has a strong liberty interest in choosing a dignified and humane death rather than being reduced at the end of his existence to a childlike state of helplessness, diapered, sedated, incontinent," wrote Judge Stephen Reinhardt for the court. "How a person dies not only determines the nature of the final period of his existence, but in many cases the enduring memories held by those who love him."

The right-to-die movement reflects an important historical change. It was born of the longevity revolution that has radically altered how and when most people die. Many chronic illnesses such as diabetes, heart disease, Parkinson's disease and certain types of cancer can be held in check for decades. This is a tremendous triumph, but it comes with a price.

"As a result, Americans are living longer, and when they finally succumb to illness, lingering longer, either in great pain or in a stuporous, semi-comatose condition that results from the infusion of vast amounts of pain-killing medications," wrote Judge Reinhardt. "Despite the marvels of technology, Americans frequently die with less dignity than they did in the days when ravaging diseases typically ended their lives quickly."

Today, patients who have made up their minds to die sometimes resort to drastic measures — the plastic bag, the stockpiling of pills, the hose on the exhaust pipe. Sometimes they even starve themselves to death.

After my father died, we all rushed out and made living wills. "If ever I get like that, shoot me," said my uncle, who eventually slipped slowly into dementia and died in his nineties. How many times, in how many families, are sons and daughters, sisters and brothers, spouses and friends whispering to each other in their grief: If I ever get like that, shoot me.

This may help explain some of the popular support for Michigan's Jack Kevorkian, the retired pathologist who has played a role in the suicides of more than 25 people since 1990 and was recently acquitted by a jury of violating the state's ban on assisted suicide.

Public opinion is divided over the issue of legalizing physician-assisted suicide. A majority of doctors support it in certain cases, according to a report last month in the New England Journal of Medicine.

But important moral and practical objections remain. A significant 30 percent of doctors surveyed in Oregon said they would refuse to prescribe a lethal dose of drugs on moral grounds. Many reported they did not know which drugs to prescribe, nor were they confident they could predict that a patient had less than six months to live or detect that a person was suffering from a depression.

Others think assisted suicide is simply outside the parameters of medicine. "I believe there is a firm distinction between killing and letting the patient die," says the physician Daniel P. Sulmasy, associate director of the Center for Clinical Bioethics at Georgetown University Medical Center in Washington.

What's more, in a medical marketplace where costs are an issue, there is growing concern that safeguards might not be adequate to protect patients from abuses of assisted suicide. Would the old and sick be encouraged to hasten their deaths?

Still, for people who seek more control over when and how they die, there must be a middle ground between starvation and a trip to Michigan.

The Washington Post.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Taiwan and China

Regarding "Taiwan's Fate Should Be Up to Taiwan's People" (Opinion, March 6):

Peng Ming-min has confused the symptoms and causes of Taiwan's weak international status. His misdiagnosis could have dangerous implications for the health of East Asia.

He argues that Taiwan's weak position vis-à-vis mainland China is a result of its exclusion from international organizations. According to this argument, only as a recognized, independent country, as opposed to a province of China, can Taiwan bolster its international status and be protected from the mainland.

In reality, Taiwan's weak position does not stem from its lack of formal recognition; it stems from its weakness. For strategic and economic reasons, the major Western governments and Japan have sided with Beijing.

Even if Taiwan were recognized as an independent country and joined the United Nations, it would still not be safe from the wrath of Beijing, which has repeatedly stated that independence would be cause for attack.

That is not to say that Taiwan should capitulate to Beijing's pressure and flagrant attempts to intervene in the forthcoming election. Beijing does not have the right to attack Taiwan. But realism dictates that independence will incite Beijing, and that nobody will come to help.

ALBERT YU.
Taipei.

Regarding "What Bothers Beijing Is Taiwan's Democracy" (Opinion, March 16):

Jim Hoagland is probably wrong in his reading of Beijing's motives. In fact, the article sounds more like the rhetoric of President Lee Teng-hui as he shuttles around Taiwan looking for votes.

Indeed, Mr. Hoagland's interpretation seems similar to the propaganda of the 1940s and '50s, which supported a U.S. defense of "free China" (Taiwan) against the Communist menace.

The truth is more likely found in the Communist Chinese way of looking at history. China, for most of the first half of this century, and for most of the last century, was a country "crucified" by foreign imperialism, to use the French historian Jacques Gernet's term.

Mao Zedong's first great accomplishment, on this reading of history, was to rid the motherland, for the first time in a century, of foreign oppressors.

I have no doubt that the shame, anger and pride accompanying this rendering of the recent history of China is still alive and operative in mainland China today.

So then why is Taiwan so important to the Chinese?

Ruled by the Japanese for 50 years, then held by the "running dogs" of the U.S. capitalists, the island may be something of a symbol of Chinese national pride and resolve.

At the very least, it is not presidential elections alone that have mustered hundreds of thousands of Chinese soldiers and shot up the waters near Taiwan.

The recovery of Taiwan is part of China's national myth of rebuilding its dignity, its "face." Mao took pride in booting the foreigners out of China; now Beijing wants to ensure its territorial integrity will never be compromised again.

Beijing's intimidation of Taiwan is not, as Mr. Hoagland writes, based on fear, but on something much less malleable: pride.

MAHLON MEYER.
Taipei.

Regarding "No One Wants It, but a War in the Taiwan Strait Is Possible" (Feb. 21):

After reading this article, one gets the impression that the United States has been forced into the ongoing conflict between Taiwan and China.

However, the so-called "Taiwan question" is actually the product of the United States' shortsighted foreign policy half a century ago.

If the United States had granted Taiwan independence right after Japan's capitulation in World War II, instead of allowing this former Japanese colony to be entrusted to the Kuomintang regime, none of the conflict over the future of Taiwan would have taken place.

What is at stake if Taiwan's security is threatened by China? Certainly not the property and lives of U.S. policymakers, who have always used "freedom" and "democracy" as excuses to justify sanctions against small, relatively harmless countries like Cuba but immediately fall silent when faced with an aggressive China.

If a war does take place, it will be the Taiwanese who suffer, as victims of the shortsighted, irresponsible U.S. foreign policy 50 years ago, and of America's incoherent, "trade first" political stance now.

Y. CHENG.
Freiburg im Breisgau, Germany.

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HEALTH/SCIENCE

A New 'Silent Spring'? Debate Heats Up Over Synthetic Chemicals

By Gina Kolata
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — In a warning supported by allies who include Robert Redford and Vice President Al Gore, some environmentalists are asserting that humans and wildlife are facing a new and serious threat from synthetic chemicals.

These chemicals, they say, mimic natural hormones like estrogen and even in minute quantities can disrupt vital processes like fertility and fetal development. The so-called endocrine-disrupting chemicals are widespread in earth and water and, the environmentalists warn, may be wreaking many insidious forms of damage, like a decline in men's sperm counts, an epidemic of breast and prostate cancer, and fetal effects that emerge later as reduced intelligence, hyperactivity and violent behavior.

But issues like declining sperm counts are a matter of heated dispute among experts.

The case against the endocrine-disrupting chemicals is made in a new book, "Our Stolen Future," written by Dr. Theo Colborn, a senior scientist at the World Wildlife Fund, Dianne Dumanoski, a reporter for The Boston Globe, and Dr. John Peterson Myers, director of the W. Alton Jones Foundation, an environmental group. The book is being heavily promoted by its publisher, Dutton of New York, and has received considerable attention.

But its message is controversial. Although some biologists agree that there is reason for concern about these chemicals, especially to certain populations of fish and birds, many others say there is no factual basis for the book's alarms, several of which have been specifically refuted by careful studies.

The book comes with a vice presidential endorsement. In a foreword, Mr. Gore compares it with "Silent Spring," Rachel Carson's classic 1962 book that set off a movement to ban DDT and other pesticides. He describes the new book as "critically important," saying, "We must find out if there are ways to protect children, who appear to be at greatest risk for birth defects and developmental disorders from such hormonally active compounds."

Besides Mr. Gore's support, Dr. Colborn said, she is getting widespread encouragement from environmentalists. "Every environmental group in the country has wanted to run with this," she said. In an interview, she said she wanted to see the endocrine-disrupting chemicals phased out. These include DDT, still used outside the United States, and a wide variety of industrial chemicals like polychlorinated biphenyls, or PCBs, and other products used in plastics, detergents, spermicides and pesticides.

Her colleague, Dr. Myers, said the evidence was sufficient to press at least for a worldwide ban on DDT and further restrictions on PCBs. But several leading scientists view such positions as premature at best. They say that the case for ridding the world of these chemicals seems fueled more by hyperbole than facts and that many of the claims of demonstrable harm, when examined, turn out to be a house of cards.

THESE scientists say they are not arbitrarily dismissing fears that trace amounts of synthetic chemicals might injure people and wildlife. But, they say, there is a difference between a hypothesis and convincing evidence.

"It's hypothesis masked as fact," said Michael A. Gallo, a professor of toxicology at the Robert Wood Johnson Medical School in New Brunswick, New Jersey.

This assessment was also shared by Dr. Bruce Ames, a professor of biochemistry and molecular biology at the University of California at Berkeley. "It's a political movement and it's based on lousy science," said Dr. Ames, who was a member of a National Academy of Sciences panel that recently reported that pesticide residues in food were not an important cause of cancer.

Scientists agree that certain synthetic chemicals may mimic reproductive hormones. And, they say, there is no doubt that some of those chemicals, at certain times and places, have reached levels that adversely affect wildlife.

But, the question is, what, if any are the effects of minute amounts of these chemicals on humans? And that is where environmentalists like Dr. Colborn part company with many scientists.

One issue, scientists say, is that the amounts of the synthetic chemicals are so minuscule that they might be dwarfed by naturally occurring hormones in plants that have the same effects. Dr. Stephen Safe, a professor of toxicology at Texas A&M University, has calculated that synthetic chemicals contribute less than one one-thousandth of 1 percent of the amount of estrogenlike compounds that people consume in their diets.

Dr. Colborn said people might have evolved so they could deal with the naturally occurring hormone disruptors but not with the synthetic ones. But others, including Dr. Delores Lamb, a hormone researcher at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, said there was no evidence for that.

Dr. Colborn said she had stacks of scientific papers that, taken together, told a convincing story about the dangers of synthetic endocrine-disrupting chemicals. "There are people who insist on direct cause-and-effect linkages," she said. "But if these things can get to the embryo, you have to worry."

A prime exhibit in "Our Stolen Future" is the reported decline in human sperm counts. Another argument is that endocrine-disrupting chemicals could be causing an epidemic of breast cancer and prostate cancer.

How Brain Evaluates Rewards and Risks

By Sandra Blakeslee
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — In the ever increasing cascade of new information on brain chemistry and behavior, one substance seems to pop up whenever pleasure is involved. It is even called dopamine, a name that has no connection to the slang "dope" for drugs, but might just as well, considering that dopamine plays a critical role in the way animals and people respond to cocaine, amphetamines, heroin, alcohol and nicotine.

Dopamine has been shown to be a key modulator in an astonishing array of human behaviors. Get too much dopamine in the brain and you hear voices, hallucinate and wrestle with twisted thoughts. Get too little of it and you cannot move. Like Parkinson's patients, you are locked in your body, depressed and joyless.

Dopamine's broad influence is an irresistible lure to scientists. And based on a few new experiments, some researchers think they have the first glimpses of a simple reward system, mediated by specialized dopamine neurons active in all vertebrates, indeed in insects and crustaceans as well. Their ideas are still more hypothesis than theory, but the work has drawn the attention and excitement of other prominent researchers.

The dopamine story begins deep in the brain stem with several tiny clumps of cells, together no bigger than a grain of sand. These 100 million or so cells, the only producers of dopamine, form long nerve fibers called axons that reach out to billions of cells in almost every other part of the brain.

Like other neurotransmitters, dopamine allows neurons to "talk" to each other, facilitating the transmission of signals from one brain cell to another.

This is only one small system in an incredibly sophisticated brain. But its size seems to belie its influence. And the reason may be that the brains of humans and other creatures operate on some deceptively simple rules, said Dr. Terrence J. Sejnowski, a neuroscientist at the Howard Hughes Medical Institute and the Salk Institute in La Jolla, California.

An idea recently proposed by Dr. Sejnowski and others is that the dopamine system evaluates rewards — both those that flow from the environment and those conjured up by the mind. Dr. Sejnowski suggests that the dopamine system works unconsciously and globally, providing guidance for making decisions, when there is not time to think things through.

Recent experiments on bees, monkeys and humans provide the basis of these ideas about the dopamine system, which are by no means proved. They are more in the realm of well grounded speculation, Dr. Sejnowski said.

Dr. P. Read Montague, a researcher at the Center for Theoretical Neuroscience in the Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, has collaborated with Dr. Sejnowski and others in modeling the way a dopamine-like system works in bees. The bee brain has only one dopamine neuron. (It actually releases octopamine, a close cousin to dopamine that serves the same purpose.) As in other creatures, this neuron sends projections to every nook and cranny of the bee brain.

Bees can find nectar-containing flowers under highly variable lighting conditions, from numerous angles and distances and during different seasons. There could be dozens of yellow flowers, of similar shape and size in a given field, yet only one or two might contain nectar. Bees can very quickly figure out which ones to sample and give the information to other bees.

How do bees do this? At the University of Illinois, Dr. Leslie Real, an experimental psychologist, has built enclosures with artificial flowers spread over the floor. Bees fly around, sampling various amounts of sugar placed in each flower by Dr. Real.

IN one experiment, Dr. Real put out blue and yellow flowers. A third of the blues contained high amounts of sugar; the other blues were empty. Among yellow flowers, two-thirds contained a small amount of sugar; the other yellows were empty. The experiment was rigged so that the total amount of sugar in the blue and yellow flowers was identical.

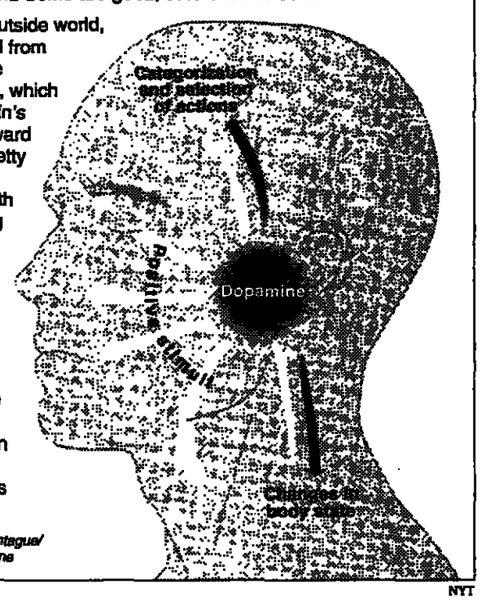
But which foraging strategy would the bee prefer? Would it go for high payoff blues? It would get the most sugar for the least amount of work but it would have to tolerate hitting more "empty" flowers. Or would the bee go the "safer" route and sample the yellows, making more work for itself?

In papers published in 1991, Dr. Real reported that bees went to the yellow flowers 85 percent of the time. In seeking reward, they were averse to taking risks.

Hooked on Dopamine

Here is how a reward system in the brain, based on dopamine would work: What you see, touch, feel, smell, taste, hear, remember and imagine all combine to produce sensory states, which change from moment to moment. Some are good; others are to be avoided.

Stimuli from the outside world, from the body and from memory reach the dopamine system, which compares the brain's expectation of reward (Gee, that was pretty good last time I experienced it) with what is happening at the moment. If the reward is higher than expected, dopamine is released, giving a green light to action to get more rewards. If the reward is less than predicted, the dopamine signal is not broadcast.



Source: Dr. P. Read Montague/ Baylor College of Medicine

NYT

IN BRIEF

Dates on Stonehenge

LONDON (Reuters) — Stonehenge, Britain's Bronze Age circle of stone blocks, could be far older than had been thought, the site managers said Wednesday.

The dressed and linteled stones were originally thought to have been built between 2100 and 1100 B.C. Now a new method using more precise radiocarbon dating has pinpointed 2550 to 1600 B.C. as a more accurate date for the World Heritage Site.

"For the first time we are able to put a proper date on Stonehenge and we realize that much of the previous data had been wrongly analyzed," Dr. Geoffrey Wainwright, chief archaeologist at English Heritage, which runs the site, said.

Amyloid and Alzheimer's

WASHINGTON (WP) — Researchers at the University of South Florida in Tampa suggest that an overabundance of the protein amyloid in Alzheimer's patients narrows and gradually damages vessels in the brain, slowly starving nerve cells.

Sperm Count Drop? Not Proved Yet

New York Times Service

NEW YORK — Dr. Harry Fisch, who directs the male reproductive center at Columbia University's College of Physicians and Surgeons, recently gave a talk to men in a support group for the infertile. How many, he said, think that sperm counts are declining worldwide? All raised their hands. And how many, he asked, think the decline is due to some toxin in the environment? Most thought that was true.

Overnight, say many male infertility experts, and largely on the basis of one controversial paper, a conviction has been born. Just as DDT caused birds' eggs to shatter, proponents of the theory say, something in the food, or water or perhaps the plastics people use with such abandon is decimating sperm counts.

But some leaders in the field of male reproduction say that recent studies cast serious doubt upon the declining sperm count hypothesis, and that the best data now available indicate that sperm counts have remained constant for decades.

Others say that every study cited by proponents of the theory had serious methodological problems, including inconsistencies in the selection of subjects, the collection of sperm and the analyses of semen.

The paper that first raised alarms about sperm counts was published in The British Medical Journal in September 1992. In it, Dr. Niels E. Skakkebaek of Rigshospitalet in Copenhagen and his colleagues reviewed data from 61 papers published from 1938 to 1991. They reported that the average sperm count had declined to 660,000 per milliliter from 1,130,000 over the last half century, a "remarkable change" that "is probably due to an environmental factor."

The authors of a new book, "Our Stolen Future," argue that the factor is a group of estrogen-like synthetic chemicals that are widespread in the environment, a thesis also favored by Dr. Skakkebaek. Even in minute amounts, they say, the chemicals can disrupt endocrine systems.

As evidence, Dr. Theo Colborn, a senior scientist at the World Wildlife Fund who is a co-author of the book, cites studies of people who were exposed before birth to the synthetic estrogen diethylstilbestrol, or DES. In the 1950s, doctors prescribed this hormone to pregnant women in the mistaken belief that it could prevent miscarriages. Later, it was found to cause genital abnormalities and a rare form of vaginal cancer in women.

But some leading experts on male infertility take issue with the argument linking the synthetic chemicals with falling sperm counts. Dr. Richard Sherins, director of the division of andrology at the Genetics and IVF Institute in Fairfax, Virginia, argued that the largest, most carefully conducted study of men born to women who took DES in pregnancy showed no decline in fertility. He said the findings indicated that certain animal studies that suggested otherwise did not necessarily predict what would happen in humans.

IN addition, Dr. Sherins said, there is no evidence that infertility is on the rise in the United States. "The National Center for Health Statistics, which is the only group in the U.S. with a substantive database, has not reported any change in fertility rates in 20 years," Dr. Sherins said.

Finally, Dr. Sherins and other experts on male fertility said, there is no reliable evidence that sperm counts are declining in this country or worldwide. That was also the consensus reached at a recent meeting of urologists, toxicologists and basic scientists convened by Dr. Delores Lamb, a hormone researcher, and Dr. Larry Lipshultz, a professor of urology, both of the Baylor College of Medicine in Houston.

Gina Kolata

Anthropology Group Moves to Protect Endangered Cultures

By Daniel Goleman
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — At the stroke of midnight on Nov. 10, 1983, the creation of a new national park in Sri Lanka made cultural orphans of the Wanniya-laeto, the last remnant of a people who appear to have lived on the island for 28,000 years. The final fringe of the forests in which they had been hunters and gatherers was put off limits for all hunting and gathering of food. A Wanniya-laeto who tried to stick to the old ways would be arrested as a poacher.

Since that moment, the Wanniya-laeto, split into three groups, have been struggling to preserve their culture. And this year, in January, the American Anthropological Association took a small step to aid the Wanniya-laeto, but a big step for anthropology. It sent a letter to the prime minister of Sri Lanka, Sirimavo Bandaranaike, to protest the treatment of the Wanniya-laeto people, and to ask that they be allowed to live once again on park lands or have access to them.

That was the first formal action by a Committee for Human Rights established by the association last October in a step designed to move anthropology as a profession to an activist stance taken only erratically in the past, and usually by individual anthropologists. And the letter marked the first time the anthropological association itself has actively intervened in a dispute.

In addition to the plight of the dispossessed Wanniya-laeto, who can no longer continue their traditional ways as forest-dwellers, the association has now taken up the causes of other cultures as well, lodging complaints with governments and other official groups, like the World Bank.

It has protested the mistreatment and displacement of Maya Indians by the Guatemalan army, the execution of leaders of the Ogoni tribe by the Nigerian government and the seizing of the lands of the Yanomami Indians in Brazil and Venezuela by gold miners.

Last week Dr. Yolanda Moses, the president of the association, issued a report protesting a January decree by President Fernando Henrique Cardoso of Brazil that reopens to land claims the protected reserves of an estimated 344 tribal societies in the Amazon basin.

Dr. Moses sent letters of protest to Mr. Cardoso, the president of the World Bank and the leaders of countries that lend money to Brazil.

One reason for the new activism is concern over the disappearance of cultures, a problem that appears to have become more serious in the last century or two. While no one can say with exact certainty at what rate cultures are becoming extinct worldwide, Dr. Patrick Morris, an anthropologist at the University of Washington, said, "At least a third of the world's inventory of human cultures have disappeared completely since 1500." Dr. David Maybury-Lewis, an anthropologist at Harvard University, said: "The roughly 5 percent of the world population who are indigenous people are being seriously threatened worldwide. Cultural diversity is an important world resource, as essential to the resilience of the human race in the long run as is biological diversity."

BOOKS

JERZY KOSINSKI: A Biography

By James Park Sloan. Illustrated. 505 pages. $27.95. Dutton.

Reviewed by Christopher Lehmann-Haupt

WHEN his harrowing tale is done and he has described for yet a second time the death by suicide of the novelist Jerzy Kosinski at the age of 58 early in the morning of May 3, 1991, James Park Sloan concludes that "few creative figures have left a more problematic oeuvre, and almost any categorical statement about it is subject to challenge."

This may be true enough, but one thing implicit in everything Sloan writes in his fascinating biography is that Kosinski was an artist of inauthenticity. This quality defines the very shape of Sloan's story. As he traces Kosinski's life from his birth in Lodz, Poland, through his rise to literary celebrity in America, he keeps reminding us that Kosinski was building a house of cards that would eventually be blown away by the scandal of exposé.

More important, his explanation of Kosinski's makeup is based on what he sees as the novelist's inauthenticity. The eventual exposé, a story in The Village Voice of June 22, 1982, by Geoffrey Stokes and Eliot Fremont-Smith, accused Kosinski of two transgressions: first, trafficking with the CIA, which Sloan concludes he did not do; and second, depending on others to help him write his books, which Sloan corroborates in detail.

But a bigger scandal, which Sloan depicts Kosinski as running from for most of his life, lay in the truth behind the autobiographical novel that made his reputation, "The Painted Bird" (1965). This tells of a boy who was abandoned by his parents to face the Holocaust alone. It begins, "In the first weeks of World War II, in the fall of 1939, a 6-year-old boy from a large city in Eastern Europe was sent by his parents, like thousands of other children, to the shelter of a distant village."

Yet the truth skillfully reconstructed by Sloan — himself a novelist ("The Case History of Comrade V"), as well as a professor of English at the University of Illinois at Chicago — is that Kosinski remained with his parents throughout World War II. What enabled him to survive was not his childhood capacity for suffering so much as the brilliant cunning of his father, who not only foresaw what the Nazis would do when they occupied Poland but also worked out a strategy for hiding his family in plain sight.

What then accounts for Kosinski's flagrant alteration of the truth, both in his novel and in the tales he trotted out to fascinate new friends in his dizzying clamber up the daisy-chain of social success? Sloan attributes Kosinski's fantasy in part to an Oedipal conflict stirred up by an exacting father and a seductive mother.

But more important, Kosinski's experience in surviving as a Jew among non-Jews taught him the value of inauthenticity. He learned to apprehend life at a remove, going through the motions "as if" he were alive and feeling. This is a condition among Holocaust survivors known psychoanalytically as alexithymia, a regression of feeling that, in Sloan's words, "makes the affects useless in the processing of information."

"Throughout his writing career," Sloan continues, "Kosinski would feel the need to appropriate an episode first as an autobiographical 'fact' before rendering it in the form of fiction."

A high-school friend of Kosinski described three stages in the production of a Kosinski story. In Sloan's paraphrase: "First, something happened. Second, something happened and Kosinski was involved in it. Third, Kosinski was the chief character in what happened." Thus Kosinski made up "The Painted Bird," and thus he fashioned the myth of himself.

What is most impressive in Sloan's narrative is not so much Kosinski's outrageousness as the brilliant inventiveness with which he filled the vacuum of his being.

And his incredible nerve. A student of Kosinski's recalls how, once when they were walking through a rough New Haven, Connecticut, neighborhood, they were bumped and jostled by a large man. Kosinski pretended to pull a pistol from his briefcase, stuck his finger in the man's ribs and demanded an apology, which he duly got.

Many such vivid anecdotes decorate Sloan's text. They seem doubly compelling in a narrative driven irresistibly by the tension between Kosinski's manic energy and the hollowness that would eventually destroy him.

The only drawback is that much about Kosinski remains elusive. Perhaps this is inevitable considering that he fashioned his career out of smoke and mirrors, but one would still like to know if he was the champion skier he often claimed to be, or if his photographs were really first-rate, or what he was like as a teacher.

Yet despite ragged edges, this biography remains extremely worthwhile. If Sloan is left-handed in his defense of novels by Kosinski like "Steps" and "Being There," if he convinces us that his subject was the very opposite of Joseph Conrad, whose English could be understood only on paper, he nevertheless offers a plausible explanation of Kosinski's character and redeems him somewhat as a literary figure.

Christopher Lehmann-Haupt is on the staff of The New York Times.

WHAT THEY'RE READING

• **Brian Booth**, a corporate lawyer and founder of the Oregon Book Awards, is reading *"The Sky Fisherman"* by Craig Lesley.

"Lesley writes about the land, rivers, rural towns and people east of the Cascade Mountains in the Pacific Northwest, where white and Native American cultures coexist. A wonderful story."

(IHT)

BRIDGE

By Alan Truscott

ONE of the teams in the Vanderbilt Knockout Team Championship survived into the quarterfinal after a bizarre combination of circumstances. The Baze team had finished their previous match at 1 A.M., believing that they had lost by 2 imps. Their opponents thought they had won by one. At 3:30 A.M. members of the team found two separate scoring errors of one imp, and now believed the match to be a tie. Checking with their opponents the next morning, they found they were right about one, but wrong about the other. The director then asked them to verify all the scores, and one member found a different one-imp error that made the match a tie. And the Baze team won the eight-deal playoff by eight imps.

On the diagramed deal the North-South cards offered a difficult bidding challenge. Should the contract be six spades, seven spades or six diamonds?

The right contract is actually seven spades, which is slightly better than 50-50: It succeeds when the diamonds split 3-2, and the spades are also favorable. Six spades is no better: It also needs favorable positions in both suits.

Six diamonds is better than six spades, since it can sometimes withstand a bad break in spades, and did. After the heart king was led, South won with the ace, played two diamond winners and went after spades. Since the defender with the remaining trump also had the spade length, South could maneuver to discard his heart loser and eventually his club loser.

NORTH (D)
♠ A K Q 10 4 2
♡ J 6
◇ K J
♣ K 6 2

WEST
♠ 5
♡ K Q 10 8 5 3
◇ 10 5
♣ J 10 7 3

EAST
♠ J 9 8
♡ 9 7 2
◇ Q 9 3
♣ Q 9 4

SOUTH
♠ 7 3
♡ A 4
◇ A 8 7 6 4 2
♣ A 8 5

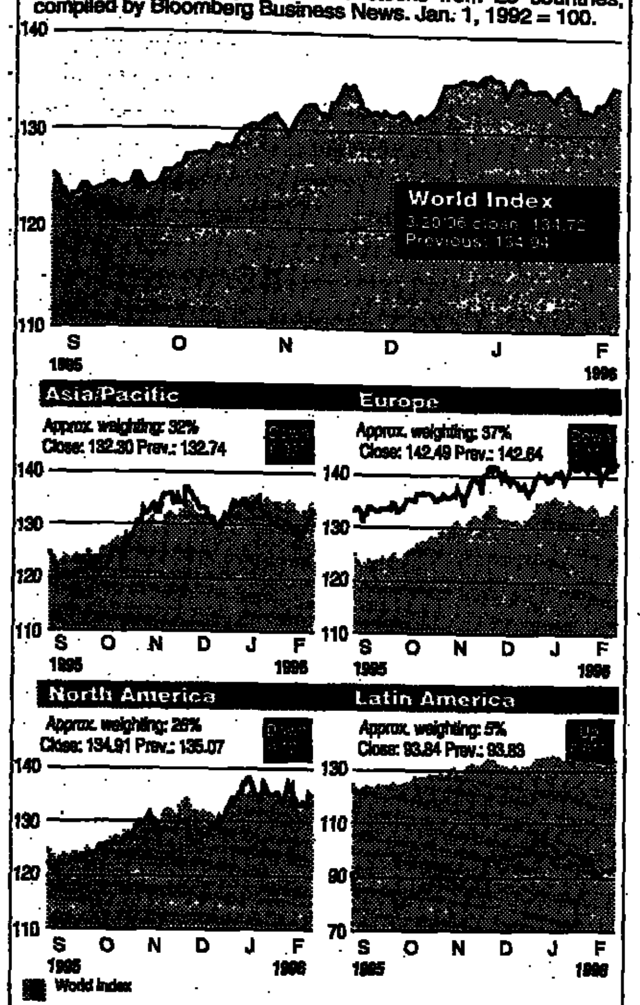
Neither side was vulnerable. The bidding:

North	East	South	West
1 ♠	Pass	2 ◇	2 ♡
2 ♠	Pass	3 ◇	Pass
4 ◇	Pass	4 ♠	Pass
5 ♣	Pass	5 ♡	Pass
5 ♠	Pass	6 ◇	Pass
Pass	Pass		

West led the heart king.

THE TRIB INDEX: 134.72

International Herald Tribune World Stock Index ©, composed of 280 internationally investable stocks from 25 countries, compiled by Bloomberg Business News. Jan. 1, 1992 = 100.



World Index

The index tracks U.S. dollar values of stocks in: Tokyo, New York, London, and Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Italy, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Singapore, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and Venezuela. For Tokyo, New York and London, the index is composed of the 20 top issues in terms of market capitalization, otherwise the ten top stocks are tracked.

Industrial Sectors

	Wed. close	Prev. close	% change		Wed. close	Prev. close	% change
Energy	138.22	139.90	-1.20	Capital Goods	143.51	144.95	-0.99
Utilities	125.55	125.67	-0.10	Raw Materials	158.59	159.10	-0.32
Finance	124.13	124.30	-0.14	Consumer Goods	141.71	140.81	+0.64
Services	122.44	122.73	-0.24	Miscellaneous	138.74	138.44	+0.22

For more information about the index, a booklet is available free of charge. Write to Trib Index, 181 Avenue Charles de Gaulle, 92521 Neuilly Cedex, France.

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Is Malaysia Mighty?

Mexico-Style Deficits Cause Concern

Reuters

KUALA LUMPUR — Malaysia now has bragging rights to the world's tallest buildings — the 88-story Petronas twin towers, which have become a symbol of the country's soaring ambitions, or what some call its hubris.

About 35 kilometers (22 miles) to the south, land is being cleared for a 20 billion ringgit ($7.8 billion) federal capital designed to be a model 21st-century administrative metropolis. Nearby, a 9 billion ringgit international airport is taking shape.

Prime Minister Mahathir bin Mohamad, in fact, has declared the area stretching from Kuala Lumpur to the new capital of Putrajaya a "multimedia supercorridor" to be wired with fiber optics that transmit voice, data and images on a single network. It is all part of his "Vision 2020" plan to make Malaysia a fully industrialized country in the next quarter-century.

So why aren't foreign investors applauding? The answer, in a word, is Mexico.

Huge projects like those in the multimedia corridor and others — such as the 15 billion ringgit Bakun dam to be built in a Borneo rain forest, a seaport, highways, and bridges — are straining an overheated economy and fueling a worrisome current-account deficit, analysts say. The so-called Mexico meltdown, which caused a run on the peso and a global sell-off in emerging stock markets in early 1995, was triggered by Mexico's persistent current-account deficits.

"We're not losing sleep over Malaysia's current-account deficit, but we're concerned," said a staff member of the U.S. Congress's banking and finance committee on a recent visit to Malaysia. "After Mexico, people don't want to be caught flat-footed."

The deficit is expected to nearly double, to 18.1 billion ringgit in 1995 from 10.99 billion ringgit in 1994. The government has estimated that it will level off at around 17 billion ringgit in 1996, but some analysts put the 1996 figure at closer to 20 billion.

Dilip Ratha, an economist at W.I. Carr, has said the deficit will soar to 12 percent of gross domestic product in 1996 from around 9 percent in 1995 — far above the level in Mexico when the peso collapsed.

Signs of strain in the economy are evident in widespread labor shortages, factories running at capacity, infrastructure bottlenecks and inflationary pressures.

"Too much of a good thing can be a bad thing," Mr. Ratha said. "The economy is already overheating at 9 percent growth."

German Money Growth Dents Hope for Rate Cut

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

FRANKFURT — Germany's money supply expanded at a faster-than-expected 12.6 percent rate last month, the Bundesbank said Wednesday, dashing hopes that the central bank would cut interest rates soon.

Although many other German indicators have shown a weak economy, the expansionary implications of the fast monetary expansion were widely expected to dissuade the Bundesbank from cutting rates.

M-3 money supply grew at an annual rate of 12.6 percent in February, compared with the fourth quarter of 1995, driven primarily by demand for mortgages and the special factors that had helped lift the rate to 8.4 percent in January.

The surge defied expectations and put M-3, the Bundesbank's official basis for setting rates, further outside the 1996 target for growth of between 4 percent to 7 percent.

"It is most unlikely the Bundesbank will cut interest rates at least until May or June now," said Bernd Pursteiner, who manages 10 billion Deutsche marks ($6.76 billion) at DWS Deutsche Gesellschaft für Wertpapiersparen. "It would damage their credibility."

While remarks from Bundesbank council members had already prepared investors for a high figure, the February growth rate far exceeded expectations of about 8.5 percent.

The damage to European financial markets was mitigated by rising bond prices in the United States, which followed a report of slower-than-expected retail sales.

Most European bond markets recorded small gains, while stock markets finished mixed. The European component of the International Herald Tribune World Stock Index closed at 142.49 points, down 0.11 percent.

The money-supply data showed that private lending rose 16.7 billion DM after dropping 300 million DM in January.

The rise was pinned primarily to rising demand for mortgages, stemming partly from a year-end scramble to secure mortgages before changes in regulations Jan. 1. Those mortgages are just now being closed.

While that source should dry up by April, new government subsidies for home-buying could continue to lift private lending, said Andrew Bosomworth, an economist at Merrill Lynch Bank AG.

"Adjusted for inflation, real lending is very expansionary," he said. "Investment should spur GDP growth in subsequent quarters."

The idea that the Bundesbank will leave interest rates alone — its floor discount rate stands at 3 percent, while the Lombard rate, which forms a ceiling for German money-market rates, is 5 percent — added to the gloomy mood surrounding the country's economy.

In Munich, the Ifo economic research institute said business confidence in Western Germany fell in February for the third consecutive month, adding to a wealth of data pointing to flagging growth.

Ifo said its index of Western German business confidence fell to 91.8 in February from 92.6 in January. The January reading is the lowest since January 1994.

In Bonn, German employers declared the death of an employment pact that the IG Metall union had hoped would create 80,000 industrial jobs.

The president of the Gesamtmetall employers' association, Werner Stumpfe, said "discussions on extra working hours are grotesque" and said the pact, in the form proposed by the union, was "dead."

Günter Rexrodt, the economics minister, said he was not particularly concerned at the unraveling of the pact, saying the accord had always been "something more symbolic in nature."

Western German textile workers and employers, meanwhile, said they had agreed to a 1.5 percent pay raise for this year but said companies could delay raising workers' wages if they offered job security.

(AFP, Bloomberg, Reuters, AFX, Knight-Ridder)

Slow PC Sales Pummel Digital's Earnings and Stock

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

NEW YORK — Digital Equipment Corp. said Wednesday that slow personal-computer sales would hold its third-quarter earnings well below Wall Street expectations, and the warning sent its stock tumbling 17 percent.

The company said it expected "little if any" revenue growth from PCs in the 12 months ending March 30.

"Like much of the industry, Digital has been experiencing significantly reduced demand and increased price pressure for personal computer products, principally in North America," said Bruce Claflin, vice president and general manager of Digital's Personal Computer Business unit.

He said factors contributing to the reduction had included a general slowdown in the commercial PC marketplace and distribution channels that were overstocked with products from many vendors.

The profit warning sent Digital's shares down $11.375 to close at $55.875 and sent a shudder through other technology issues. Analysts had expected the company to post earnings between 86 cents and $1.18 a share for its third quarter, but Vincent Mullarkey, Digital's chief financial officer, called those estimates "aggressive." He said, however, that the company still expected to post improved earnings, compared with the year-earlier period.

Digital's difficulties are part of an industry-wide slowdown in PC sales that has been evident since the Christmas shopping season.

This month, Compaq Computer Corp. said it was cutting prices to meet its sales targets for the first quarter, and International Business Machines Corp. has warned of slow personal-computer sales in North America.

(Bloomberg, Reuters)

■ Portable Models' Growth Slackens

The global market for portable computers grew a slower-than-expected 15 percent last year, to 9.91 million units, the research firm Dataquest Inc. said, according to a Bloomberg Business News dispatch from Singapore.

Dataquest attributed the softer growth to a "tougher-than-expected transition" to models using Intel Corp.'s Pentium chip.

Dataquest said it expected the market to grow 30 percent this year as computer makers made a "major shift in product mix" to favor for money over extra features.

INTERNATIONAL MANAGER

As 'Legends' Quit, Successors Sweat

By Anna D. Wilde
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — Sam Walton, the charismatic founder of Wal-Mart Stores Inc., built a single discount store in Rogers, Arkansas, into a retail behemoth. Workers, whom he respectfully dubbed "associates," loved him for team-building practices like the daily cheer: "W-A-L M-A-R-T," punctuated with a Chubby Checker-like twist they call a "squiggly."

Known for his masterful selling instincts, "down-home" manner and habit of turning up at stores to inspect the wares and inspire the troops, he became a legend inside and outside his company.

For Wal-Mart, that was precisely the problem as Mr. Walton neared retirement age. Who could replace this icon, this man who once did a hula on Wall Street in a grass skirt?

This kind of quandary is faced by any business with a high-profile leader. In January, for example, Helen Gurley Brown, the woman who gave Cosmopolitan, and with it many other women's magazines, a bolder voice, announced that she would retire in June 1997.

David D. Glass, Wal-Mart's current president and chief executive, said he did not even attempt to be another Sam Walton. "Sam had more charisma than I do," Mr. Glass said. But, he added, "my responsibility is not to try to be him or do what he would have done."

Mr. Glass, who became chief executive in 1988, is working hard at what management experts say is a difficult task. Many organizations, from baseball teams to universities to corporations, do not handle the switch from titan to neophyte boss smoothly.

"These things are like Greek tragedies," said Abraham Zaleznik, professor emeritus of leadership at Harvard Business School. Any executive who follows a much-loved figure must deal with employee tension and constant references to the past, he said.

Several factors can ease the transition — or make it still more difficult.

The longer a legend reigns, the tougher it is to replace him or her. "It's like living with a woman for 17 years and suddenly she's not there anymore," said Buddy Bell, the new manager of the Detroit Tigers, about the team's first spring training after the 17-year era of Sparky Anderson.

Long accustomed to Mr. Anderson, who with a total of 26 years with the Tigers and the Cincinnati Reds was the longest-serving manager in baseball's major leagues until his retirement last year, many players and fans will still see his visage in the dugout even though he is gone.

"You'll always be comparing the two," Mr. Bell said. "I don't think it would be normal if you didn't."

The transition is even more difficult if the legend refuses to relax his grip on power. Thomas Hoving, a former New York City parks commissioner, got his job by writing a policy proposal that criticized Robert Moses, the legendary parks chief, who was then still in city government. "He loved concrete," Mr. Hoving said. "I didn't."

But after he stepped into the office in 1966, Mr. Hoving found that the vision of Mr. Moses was not so easy to jettison. The former commissioner would "send directives to everybody whom I hadn't put in there," Mr. Hoving recalled, and often would countermand his orders.

Mr. Hoving, who said he was personally friendly with Mr. Moses, acted decisively. When a parks employee said, "I got a call from the boss," referring to Mr. Moses, Mr. Hoving would reply, "Just tell him to go buzz off."

Eventually, Mr. Hoving replaced several of Mr. Moses's loyalists. "The best way to go against a living legend," he said, "is to be completely blunt, garrulous and slightly profane."

Powerful leaders may also try to perpetuate their legacies by choosing weak replacements.

"Often where a very strong leader is present, they do not choose a successor who will be their peer," said Jay Conger, chairman of the Leadership Institute at the University of Southern California's School of Business. "History is filled with these examples."

But in some transitions, the heir is helped rather than hindered by his predecessor.

At the University of Notre Dame, for

See HEIRS, Page 15

Deutsche Telekom Battles Tradition To Try to Sell Public on Its Share Issue

By John Schmid
International Herald Tribune

BONN — Deutsche Telekom AG kicked off a national campaign Wednesday for its historic stock float in November, but in doing so the German state phone company may have put potential share buyers firmly on hold.

Even though they were opening a campaign meant to rouse investor interest, Telekom's executives declined to talk about its business prospects and said results were not due until June.

In addition, Deutsche Telekom conceded that it may be difficult to appeal to the average private investor in a country where there has traditionally been a wariness of investments in stocks.

Although the German telephone utility will list its shares internationally, becoming only the second German company listed on the New York Stock Exchange after Daimler-Benz AG, the initial public offering will falter if retail customers at home shun the issue, analysts say.

But Joachim Kröske, Telekom's chief financial officer, said that only 5 percent of German households owned shares, compared with 20 percent in Anglo-Saxon households.

"The shareholder culture in Germany is well-known to be undeveloped," said Ron Sommer, the Telekom management board chairman, who has eight months to develop a groundswell of interest in what will be the biggest-ever initial public offering in Europe.

Other European telecommunications privatizations have proven that strong domestic demand tends to create a stable shareholder base protected from the volatility of speculative international funds, analysts said.

"For an international issue, that makes the difference of whether it is successful or not successful," said an industry analyst in London.

Starting this week, German television viewers will see bakers, butchers and pedestrians cheerfully making a "T" by crossing one arm horizontally over the other, a gesture meant to suggest that many ordinary Germans are ready to promote what the company calls its "T-shares." The commercials, accompanied by a Cole Porter tune, give viewers a toll-free telephone number to call for more information.

Hoping to lure small investors, Mr. Sommer has said a single share will not be more expensive than a family trip to the movies. Telekom will calculate the price of the shares in late October or November, just ahead of the issue.

Wolfgang Bötsch, the federal postal minister, said that Europe's largest national telecommunications market would grow to over 100 billion Deutsche marks ($68 billion) by 2000. That compares with Telekom's current annual sales of 66 billion DM, when Telekom monopolizes the conventional fixed-line market and has 56 percent of the cellular market.

But Telekom's share of the growth will lag the broader market, according to a recent study by Société Générale Research. It said Germany's telecommunications market would grow some 7 percent annually, while Telekom's sales should expand at only 4 percent as the company progressively lost market share after the opening up of Germany's market in early 1988.

To help Telekom get on its feet, the German government will forgo its share of the estimated 15 billion DM from the November flotation.

CURRENCY & INTEREST RATES

Cross Rates March 20

	$	£	D.M.	F.F.	Lira	D.fl.	B.F.	S.F.	Yen	C$	Peseta
Amsterdam	1.6535	2.5406	1.1193	0.3269	0.1061*	—	5.4405*	1.365	1.552*	1.2165	1.3315*
Brussels	30.285	46.585	20.546	6.086	1.9468*	18.356	—	25.4325	0.2852	22.285	24.4075*
Frankfurt	1.4734	2.2653	—	0.2932	0.0947*	0.8925	4.8668*	1.2378	1.3869*	1.0835	1.1891*
London (a)	1.5365	—	2.2676	7.7597	2,394.55	2.5381	46.592	1.8334	163.56	2.0889	190.635
Madrid	123.995	190.667	84.093	24.583	7.968*	75.13	4.0929	104.093	116.734*	91.208	—
Milan	1,556.85	2,394.70	1,055.65	308.47	—	942.85	51.443	1,306.20	14.614	1,144.25	12.571
New York (b)	—	1.5390	1.4743	5.0485	1,557.00	1.6497	30.29	1.1925	106.45	1.3599	123.95
Paris	5.044	7.756	3.4208	—	0.3242*	3.0563	0.1665	4.2344	4.7407*	3.7402	4.0685*
Tokyo					Closed.						
Toronto	1.3684	2.094	0.9231	0.2694	0.0875*	0.8247	0.4492*	1.1412	1.2787*	—	1.098*
Zurich	1.1934	1.8349	0.8082	0.2362	0.0767*	0.7223	3.9358*	—	1.1208*	0.8780	0.9617*
1 ECU	1.2854	0.8359	1.8953	6.4833	2,000.29	2.1214	38.9390	1.5331	136.53	1.7474	159.345
1 SDR	1.4636	0.9523	2.1584	7.3823	2,277.55	2.4155	44.2952	1.7421	N.Q.	1.9851	181.44

Closings in Amsterdam, London, Milan, New York, Paris and Zurich, fixings in other centers; Toronto rates at 3 p.m.
*a: To buy one pound; b: To buy one dollar; *Units of 100; N.Q.: not quoted; N.A.: not available.*

Other Dollar Values

Currency	Per $	Currency	Per $	Currency	Per $	Currency	Per $
Argent. peso	1.00	Greek drac.	240.64	Mex. peso	7.4975	S. Afr. rand	3.9285
Australian $	1.2887	Hong Kong $	7.7315	N. Zealand $	1.4514	S. Kor. won	781.90
Austrian sch.	10.368	Hung. forint	146.20	Norw. krone	6.4052	Swed. krona	6.6053
Brazil real	0.9875	Indian rupee	35.30	Phil. peso	26.18	Taiwan $	27.18
Chinese yuan	8.353	Indo. rupiah	2334.48	Polish zloty	2.58	Thai baht	25.24
Czech koruna	27.27	Irish £	0.6319	Port. escudo	152.34	Turkish lira	69054.0
Danish krone	5.692	Israeli shek.	3.0855	Russ ruble	4838.0	UAE dirham	3.671
Egypt. pound	3.3939	Kuw dinar	0.299	Saudi riyal	3.75	Venez. boliv.	538.00
Fin. markka	4.577	Malay. ring.	2.543	Sing. $	1.4088		

Forward Rates

Currency	30-day	60-day	90-day	Currency	30-day	60-day	90-day
Pound Sterling	1.5363	1.5355	1.5347	Japanese yen	105.81	105.38	104.91
Canadian dollar	1.3597	1.3599	1.3601	Swiss franc	1.1874	1.1839	1.1802
Deutsche mark	1.4718	1.4693	1.4666				

Sources: ING Bank (Amsterdam); Indosuez Bank (Brussels); Banca Commerciale Italiana (Milan); Agence France-Presse (Paris); Bank of Tokyo (Tokyo); Royal Bank of Canada (Toronto); IMF (SDR). Other data from Reuters and AP.

Eurocurrency Deposits March 20

	Dollar	D-Mark	Swiss Franc	Sterling	French Franc	Yen	ECU
1-month	5 5/16 - 5 7/16	3 1/4 - 3 3/8	1 11/16 - 1 13/16	5 15/16 - 6 1/16	4 - 4 1/8	1/2 - 5/8	4 9/16 - 4 11/16
3-month	5 5/16 - 5 7/16	3 1/4 - 3 3/8	1 3/4 - 1 7/8	5 7/8 - 6	4 1/8 - 4 1/4	9/16 - 11/16	4 9/16 - 4 11/16
6-month	5 5/16 - 5 7/16	3 1/4 - 3 3/8	1 3/4 - 1 7/8	5 15/16 - 6 1/16	4 3/16 - 4 5/16	5/8 - 3/4	4 9/16 - 4 11/16
1-year	5 1/2 - 5 5/8	3 3/8 - 3 1/2	1 7/8 - 2	6 - 6 1/8	4 3/8 - 4 1/2	3/4 - 7/8	4 11/16 - 4 13/16

Sources: Reuters, Lloyds Bank.
Rates applicable to interbank deposits of $1 million minimum (or equivalent).

Key Money Rates

United States	Close	Prev
Discount rate	5.00	5.00
Prime rate	8 1/4	8 1/4
Federal funds	5 5/16	5 1/4
3-month CDs	4.97	5.19
Comm. paper 180 days	6.11	6.11
3 month Treasury bill	4.98	5.04
1-year Treasury bill	5.08	5.17
2-year Treasury bill	5.70	5.84
5-year Treasury note	6.01	6.15
7-year Treasury note	6.13	6.26
10-year Treasury note	6.30	6.41
30-year Treasury bond	6.63	6.71
Merrill Lynch 30-day RA	4.82	4.83
Japan		
Discount rate	Clsd.	0.50
Call money	—	0.38
1-month interbank	—	0.49
3-month interbank	—	0.59
6-month interbank	—	0.63
10-year Govt bond	—	2.85
Germany		
Lombard rate	5.00	5.00
Call money	3.35	3.39
1-month interbank	3.37	3.37
3-month interbank	3.35	3.35
6-month interbank	3.38	3.38
10-year Bund	6.47	6.54

Britain	Close	Prev
Bank base rate	6.00	6.00
Call money	5 15/16	5 7/8
1-month interbank	6.00	6.00
3-month interbank	6 1/16	6 1/16
6-month interbank	6 1/8	6 1/8
10-year Gilt	8.05	8.13
France		
Intervention rate	3.80	3.80
Call money	3 15/16	3 15/16
1-month interbank	4.00	4.00
3-month interbank	4 1/8	4 1/8
6-month interbank	4 3/16	4 1/4
10-year OAT	6.65	6.68

Sources: Reuters, Bloomberg, Merrill Lynch, Bank of Tokyo, Commerzbank, Crédit Lyonnais.

Gold

	A.M.	P.M.	Ch'ge
Zurich	394.65	395.00	-0.25
London	394.70	394.90	-0.20
New York	396.00	396.50	+0.50

U.S. dollars per ounce. London official fixings; Zurich and New York opening and closing prices; New York Comex (April.)
Source: Reuters.

Aerospatiale Joins Call For Change at Airbus

Bloomberg Business News

PARIS — Aerospatiale, one of four partners in Airbus Industrie, said Wednesday it agreed with Germany and Britain that the group's corporate status must be changed to help make it more competitive.

"The chief executive has said he is completely in favor of this; he's even said that it should be done as soon as possible," a spokesman for Aerospatiale said.

The partners in Airbus — Aerospatiale of France and Daimler-Benz Aerospace AG of Germany, each with a 38 percent share; British Aerospace PLC, with 20 percent, and Construcciones Aeronáuticas SA of Spain with 4 percent — have long considered a change in corporate status.

In May 1995, Aerospatiale asked a supervisory panel to study the idea and report back by June. A committee led by the former chairman of Daimler-Benz AG, Edzard Reuter, was set up as a result. On Tuesday, Germany reiterated its call for change.

"The success of Airbus is certain in the long term only if the partners agree right now to an efficient international competitive structure," Norbert Lammert, Germany's coordinator for the aerospace industry, said.

When Airbus was created 20 years ago, it was constituted as a risk-sharing partnership, called a Groupement d'Interet Economique, or GIE.

It was a marketing vehicle for the products of the four companies. They, not Airbus, held the consortium's assets and were liable for its debts. Its status as a GIE meant Airbus was not obliged to publish financial accounts.

Unlike most standard corporations, which subcontract work to whichever companies can perform it for the best price, Airbus handed it out to its partners in proportion to their holdings.

The German government also warned it would withhold funding for the development of Airbus aircraft unless the company were restructured to become more competitive.

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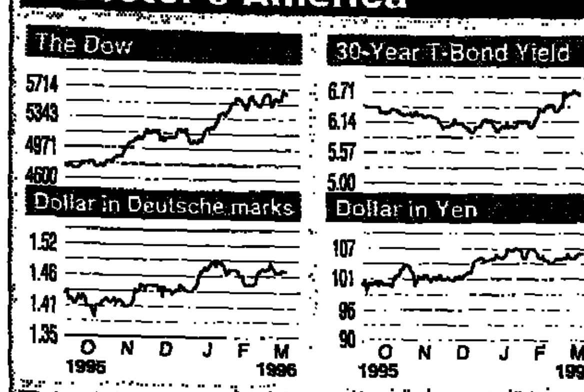
THE AMERICAS

Investor's America



Exchange	Index	Wednesday @4PM	Prev. Close	% Change
NYSE	The Dow	5655.42	5669.51	-0.25
NYSE	S&P 500	649.98	651.69	-0.26
NYSE	S&P 100	628.03	630.78	-0.43
NYSE	Composite	348.20	348.55	-0.10
U.S.	Nasdaq Composite	1101.83	1112.50	-0.96
AMEX	Market Value	567.27	564.57	+0.48
Toronto	TSE index	4961.39	4967.30	-0.12
São Paulo	Bovespa	48683.55	48515.31	+0.35
Mexico City	Bolsa	3004.37	3003.84	+0.02
Buenos Aires	Merval	498.68	496.98	+0.34
Santiago	IPSA General	5417.26	5434.05	-0.31
Caracas	Capital General	3139.80	3068.38	+2.33

Source: Bloomberg, Reuters — International Herald Tribune

Very briefly:

Loan Scam Victimizes U.S. Banks

RICHMOND, Virginia (AP) — NationsBank Corp., Signet Banking Corp., and a number of other banks may have been duped out of millions of dollars in fraudulent loans by two people who claimed to be employees of Philip Morris Cos., officials said Wednesday.

Signet disclosed Tuesday that it had apparently lost $81 million in the scheme. On Wednesday, NationsBank said it could lose $60 million, depending on recoveries by authorities. The FBI said all banks involved may have lost a total of $173 million. The loans supposedly were granted to finance computer-equipment leases through a Richmond computer-leasing concern, according to the U.S. attorney's office. The banks believed the computers were going to be used by Philip Morris for research, the statement said.

FBI agents have arrested Edward J. Reiners and Judy Rose Bachiman in connection with the case, said Robert W. Jaspen, an assistant U.S. attorney in Richmond. Mr. Reiners, 51, is a former Philip Morris employee and had done business with one of the bank officials involved in the scam when he was with the company.

- **Acme-Cleveland Corp.** rejected a $27-a-share hostile takeover bid from **Danaher Corp.** as "inadequate" and said it was exploring other ways to boost shareholder value.
- **Trans World Airlines Inc.** said it would sell 3.5 million shares of 8 percent convertible preferred stock to institutional investors.
- **AirTouch Communications Inc.** said **U S West Cellular**, part of U S West Media Group, would use the AirTouch brand name for cellular services as part of the companies' merger of cellular operations.
- **Netscape Communications Corp.** bought an equity stake in closely held Voxware, a maker of voice-processing software. Terms were disclosed. *Bloomberg, Reuters*

Wheat Rockets 40% to Record

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

CHICAGO — Wheat futures prices at the Chicago Board of Trade exploded 40 percent to an all-time high of $7.50 a bushel Wednesday after a commercial grain dealer scrambled to buy as many as 1 million bushels in the final minutes before the March futures contract expired.

Produce Grain Co., a division of Bunge Corp. in St. Louis, sought to buy grain minutes before the final bell sounded but was forced to raise its bids to $7.50 a bushel, more than $2 above previous trades, before a seller came forward, traders said.

Produce Grain had an order to buy wheat at the end of the session, and that forced the company to bid higher until it found a buyer, traders said.

"There was nothing for sale," said Steve Bruce, a floor trader with E.D.& F. Co. "This just reiterates how tight things are."

Wheat for March delivery settled at $6.40 a bushel, up $1.33 on the day, after registering a transaction at $7.50 a bushel and another at $7.00 a bushel, according to Chicago Board of Trade figures. The price was the highest in the history of the contract, which was launched Jan. 2, 1877.

Traders said about 375,000 bushels of wheat traded at $7 a bushel and above.

Analysts said the price surge may not reflect broader supply and demand. "I don't think it's going to have much effect on the other contract months," said Lance Griffin, director at Grain Service Corp. in Atlanta. "It was just a fluke."

The March contract expired at noon local time, before other contracts closed. Wheat futures under exchange rules can move no more than 20 cents a bushel in one day. That rule, however, is waived during the delivery period, which began March 1.

"The exchange owes the trading public an explanation of what happened," a trader said. "This has frightened all my customers."

Meanwhile, crude oil futures posted one of their biggest one-day drops in five years as refiners balked at paying the highest prices seen since the Gulf War and speculators tried to sell back contracts to avoid having to take delivery of the oil. Crude oil for April delivery plunged $1.28 to $23.06 a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange. *(Bloomberg, Reuters, Knight-Ridder)*

Brewer Suspends Internet Trading

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — At the behest of securities regulators, a small New York brewer said Wednesday that it had suspended a trailblazing experiment: trading of the company's stock on the Internet.

Spring Street Brewing Co. last Friday launched an electronic-bulletin-board trading system on its World Wide Web page that allowed buyers and sellers to trade its shares. Spring Street's chief executive, Andrew D. Klein, a former securities lawyer, said he was unaware of any other company with such a trading system.

While only a handful of trades took place, the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission called the company on Monday and asked a series of questions.

Following a conference call with 11 SEC lawyers, Mr. Klein agreed to suspend the trading system until the regulator researched numerous legal issues, including possible violation of the 1934 Securities Exchange Act. "Major parts of it are fine, but some parts of it, at a minimum, will need to be revised," Mr. Klein said, referring to the new trading system.

The SEC questioned whether Spring Street's system, called Wit-Trade, named after its Wit brand of beer, should be registered as a broker-dealer under the 1934 act. Another issue concerned whether the company should have a securities clearing and transfer agent formally process the investors' checks, stock certificates and other paperwork required in stock trades.

Wit-Trade consists of two on-line bulletin boards, one with buyers and the prices they are willing to pay, the other with the sellers and the prices they ask. A trade occurs after buyers and sellers contact each other via E-mail and document a trade.

German Reports Ruffle the Dollar

Bloomberg Business News

NEW YORK — The dollar rose slightly against other major currencies Wednesday despite economic reports that cast doubt on the outlook for another cut in German interest rates.

The dollar slipped after a bigger-than-expected jump in Germany's M-3 money supply, the Bundesbank's

FOREIGN EXCHANGE

main indicator of inflation, reduced chances of a German rate cut over the next month.

But the currency managed a slender rebound after a survey by the Ifo Institute for Economic Research showed another drop in German business confidence last month.

"A lot of the noise from the money-supply report was drowned out by the Ifo survey," said Wiltse Bailey, an analyst at Banque Nationale de Paris. "The bad money-supply figures led to the fall in the dollar, but it took back some ground after the terrible Ifo survey got people talking about a cyclical recession" in Germany.

The dollar closed at 1.4743 Deutsche marks, up from 1.4735 DM at the close on Tuesday, and at 106.450 yen, up from 106.175 yen. It also closed at 5.0485 French francs, higher than 5.0375 francs at the close Tuesday, and 1.1925 Swiss francs, up from 1.1902 francs. The pound rose to $1.5390 from $1.5338.

The Bundesbank has come under increasing pressure to reduce interest rates with German unemployment rising to postwar highs in recent months. But the central bank's main priority is to control inflation, and this has led to a murky outlook for German interest rates and kept the dollar pinned in a range between 1.4660 DM and 1.4806 DM since March 13. At the same time, the dollar has crept higher against the yen, amid tension between China and Taiwan and optimism that the currency will rise after the end of Japan's fiscal year March 31.

Profit Warning Ripples Through Wall Street

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

NEW YORK — Stocks fell Wednesday as weakness in technology shares offset lower Treasury bond yields.

The Dow Jones industrial average closed down 14.09 points, at 5,655.42, and declining issues outnumbered gainers by a narrow margin on the New York Stock Exchange.

The price of the benchmark 30-year Treasury bond closed 29/32

U.S. STOCKS

of a point higher at 91 24/32, taking the yield down to 6.63 percent from 6.71 percent Tuesday.

Bond prices were lifted by a weaker-than-expected gain in retail sales in February reported by the Commerce Department.

"It's a relief rally," said John Ryding, an economist at Bear Stearns & Co. "People had priced in the worst, and it came in weaker than expected."

Slower consumer spending could eventually prompt the Federal Reserve Board to lower interest rates. But the data were not seen as enough to push the Fed to adjust rates when its policy-making Open Market Committee meets next week.

The lower bond yields managed to lift banking shares because lower borrowing costs lift profit potential. First Interstate rose 1⅞ to 166½, and Wells Fargo gained 2⅞ to 249¾.

But the rest of the stock market was dragged down by the drop in technology shares. The plunge was sparked by a profit warning from Digital Equipment, which plunged 11⅜ to 55⅞ after saying slow personal-computer sales in its third quarter would hold earnings below analysts' expectations.

"The technology glass has gone from half-full to half-empty," said Stanton Feeley at SunAmerica Asset Management.

Intel dropped 3¼ to 55½ after an analyst at Merrill Lynch lowered his 1996 earnings estimate for the company because of weak demand for personal computers. International Business Machines lost 4⅝ to 117⅞, Hewlett-Packard fell 4 to 97¼, and Compaq dropped 2⅛ to 38.

Cyclicals were weak, with General Motors slipping ¾ to 53½ and Caterpillar losing 1½ to 70⅛.

"There's an exceedingly high level of uncertainty about the economy — it's speeding up, but it shows attributes of a mature expansion," said Grace Messner, a money manager at Wilmington Trust Co. "There's a sub-rhythm of strengthening, but how long will it last?"

Paper stocks were further burdened by concern that pulp and papermakers cannot sustain profit levels as supplies pile up in warehouses amid weak demand. Weyerhauser lost 1⅛ to 47½, and Boise Cascade fell 1⅞ to 42⅜.

But Philip Morris retraced part of its recent slide, closing up 3 at 89⅜ after Smith Barney repeated its buy recommendation for the stock. Concern that smokers' lawsuits would cause profits to suffer sheared more than 15 percent from Philip Morris shares in the past week.

Trimedyne jumped ⅜ to 10⅞, gaining for a second day after the government approved its side-firing laser fibers to treat enlarged prostates.

Niagara Mohawk Power slipped ⅛ to 6⅝ in active trading. PaineWebber lowered its earnings estimate for the company last week.

Atlas Air fell 2½ to 31⅜ amid concerns about stepped-up competition for the freight transporter, which could curb the company's growth and limit profit. *(AP, Bloomberg)*

Quarterly Profit Soars at Lehman

Bloomberg Business News

NEW YORK — Lehman Brothers Holdings Inc. said Wednesday that its first-quarter earnings more than doubled, helped by revenue gains in underwriting and trading, even as its revenue from investment banking declined from the fourth quarter.

Profit in the quarter ended Feb. 29 rose to $104 million, or 79 cents a share, from $45 million, or 31 cents a share, a year earlier. Total revenue rose 26 percent, to $3.9 billion. Net revenue, or total revenue minus interest expenses, rose 16.1 percent, to $821 million.

Earnings from Lehman's investment-banking business totaled $211 million, up 54 percent from last year but lower than the $261 million the securities firm earned in the fourth quarter of 1995, when the stock market's rally generated a boom in share sales.

Lehman's shares closed at $25.75, up $1.75.

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

Wednesday, March 20
Prices in local currencies.
Telekurs

Amsterdam

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
ABN-AMRO	80.20	79.10	80.20	80
Aegon	73	71.50	73	73
Ahold	76.90	75.90	76.70	77.10
Akzo Nobel	182.40	180.80	182.20	181.90
Bols Wess cva	33.10	32.50	32.70	33.10
CSM cva	78.40	77	77.90	78
Dordtsche Pet	245.80	244	245.50	244.60
DSM	155.90	154	155.20	154.70
Elsevier	24.50	24.10	24.30	24.40
Fortis Amev	113.50	111.20	113.50	113
G-Broc cva	52.50	51.30	51.50	52.90
Hagemeyer	106	104	105.50	105
Heineken	338.50	330.70	338.50	333.90
Hoogovens	63.40	62.20	63.40	62.80
Hunt Douglas	102.60	101.80	102.60	102
ING cva	115.10	113.50	115.10	114.80
KLM	59.30	56.90	59	57
KNP BT	45.80	45.10	45.60	46
KPN	67.80	67.30	67.80	68.10
Nedlloyd Gp	36.60	36.10	36.60	36.50
Nutricia	160	156	160	156.80
Oce Grinten	138.50	137	138.10	138.50
Pakhoed	44.80	44	44.50	44.60
Philips Elec	67.70	66.50	67	67.40
Polygram	98.20	97	97	98.20
Randstad Hdg	84.40	83.10	83.80	84.50
Robeco	122.40	122	122	122.20
Rodamco	46.50	46.10	46.20	46.50
Rolinco	130.90	130.50	130.50	130.20
Rorento	94.20	94.10	94.20	94.20
Royal Dutch	234	232.10	232.80	233.50
Stork	47.60	46.90	47.30	47.50
Unilever cva	228	226.60	228	228.70
VNU	26.40	25.70	26.10	26.60
Wolters Kl cva	178.40	176.60	178.20	178.30

EOE index: 527.72
Previous: 527.93

Bangkok

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Adv Info Svc	480	472	480	474
Bangkok Bk F	344	334	342	338
Krung Thai Bk	115	113	114	115
PTT Explor	300	292	298	294
Siam Cement F	1246	1222	1246	1234
Telecomasia	71	69	70.50	69
Thai Airways	53	51	52.50	52
Thai Farm Bk F	290	264	264	290
Thai Teleph	96	89	95.50	90
Utd Comm	350	346	350	352

SET index: 1287.99
Previous: 1284.08

Bombay

Tuesday, March 19

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Assoc Cement	3425	3325	3360	3420
Grasim Ind	590	585	585	585
Hindalco Ind	1105	1095	1105	1105
Indust Lever	715	705	710	710
Indian Hotels	705	680	695	690
ITC	238	229	231	234
Larsen Toubro	239	231	231	237
Reliance Ind	215	202	202.50	213.25
Tata Eng Loco	416	412	414	414
Tata Iron St	185.50	177	180	184.75

Sensitive index: 3256.08
Previous: 3292.31

Brussels

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Arbed	3280	3200	3200	3240
Barco Ind	4085	4010	4085	4050
BBL	5710	5640	5710	5660
Bekaert	28850	28600	28800	28600
CBR	12225	12200	12225	12225
CMB	2430	2400	2420	2430
Cockerill	178	175	177	175
Colruyt	10000	9920	10000	9920
Delhaize Lion	1332	1310	1332	1312
Electrabel	6850	6810	6820	6850
Electrafina	2850	2830	2850	2850
Fortis AG	3730	3710	3715	3735
GIB	1484	1478	1478	1484
GBL	4000	3900	3990	3925
Gen Banque	10900	10825	10900	10925
Glaverbel	3470	3440	3470	3440
Kredietbank	8230	8150	8200	8210
Mosane	2150	2150	2150	2150
Petrofina	8560	8530	8560	8540
Powerfin	3940	3905	3920	3940
Recticel	310	306	310	307
Royale Belge	6070	6040	6040	6060
Soc Gen Belg	2485	2460	2485	2475
Solvay	17850	17700	17700	17900
Tessenderlo	12600	12400	12400	12600
Tractebel	12075	11900	12000	12100
UCB	51400	50850	50850	51300
Union Miniere	2285	2265	2285	2270

Stock Exchange index: 8722.95
Previous: 8721.70

Copenhagen

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Carlsberg B	318.40	313	315	317
Danisco	289	283	288	283
Den Danske Bk	375	369.78	375	372
D/S Svendbrg A	171000	171000	171000	170000
D/S 1912 A	N.T.	N.T.	N.T.	119000
East Asiatic Co	113	108	111	110
FLS Ind B	466	460	465	459
ISS Intl Svc B	150	139.85	149	141
Nvo Nordisk B	741	732	740	738
Radiometer B	410	405	407	405
Sophus Ber B	669	660	669	658
Tele Danmk B	303	296	300	300
Unidanmark A	265	258	258	264

Stock Market index: 378.31
Previous: 378.55

Frankfurt

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
AMB	810	790	790	810
AEG	165.50	164.90	164.90	165.50
Allianz Hdg	2758	2732	2745	2728
Altana	983	976	976	980
Asko Deutsche	940	927	927	940
Badenwerk	500	500	500	497
BASF	394	390	392.50	401
Bayer Hypo Bk	36.20	36.01	36.01	36.32
Bay.Vereinsbank	43.90	43.15	43.40	43.30
Bayer	495	491.80	494.60	502.30
Berliner Kraft	412	407	408	410.50
BHF Bank	40.40	39.50	40.10	39.40
BMW	813	810	810	818
CKAG Colonia	1135	1135	1135	1135
Commerzbank	333.80	331.50	332.50	332.50
Daimler Benz	823.50	818.50	819.70	822.30
Degussa	549	537	549	543.50
Deutsche Bank	75.25	74.45	75.13	73.95
Dresdner Bank	38	37.87	37.87	38.05
Heidelbg Zmt	970	970	965	970
Henkel	553	550	553	556
Hochtief	620	616	616	622
Hoechst	500.50	496.50	500.50	503
Holzmann Ph.	525	524	524	521
Karstadt	558	555	555	563.50
Kaufhof Hdg	483	480	480	485
Linde	868	863	866	868.50
Lufthansa ord	233.80	229.80	233.20	229.50
MAN	416.50	413	414.50	417
Mannesmann	538	534	535	530
Muench Rueck	3025	3005	3005	3024
Preussag	431.80	428.50	431.50	429.75
PWA	203.50	201	203	203.50
RWE	59.50	59	59.05	59.50
SAP pfd	209.50	206.10	209.30	212
Schering	116	112.75	116	116.95
Schmalb Lub	247	244	245.30	248
Siemens	831	825.50	828.10	835.40
Suedzucker	760	759	759	758
Thyssen	292.50	289.20	290.30	290.30
Veba	69.50	69.30	69.45	69.98
VEW	499	490	499	492
Viag	657.50	652	656.50	658
Volkswagen	548	542.50	542.50	544.50
Wella	713	710.50	711	712

DAX index: 2485.90
Previous: 2493.26

Helsinki

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Cultor I	199	197	199	200
Enso-Gutzeit R	35.70	35.30	35.50	36.20
Huhtamaki IF	150	146	149	148.50
Kesko	58.50	57.20	58	58
Kone BF	480	473	475	491
Kymmene F	130.40	129.30	129.90	132
Merita A	11.60	11.30	11.50	11.50
Metra BF	187	183	185	183
Metso-Serla B	156	149	150	151
Nokia Pfd F	167.20	164.80	164.80	167
Outokumpu A	88.80	86.10	86.50	88.80
Rautaruukki	34.90	34	34.40	35
Repola	93.30	92	93	92.50
Stockmann A	245	240	242	247
Valmet A	116	115	115.50	115.80

HEX General index: 1881.16
Previous: 1897.16

Hong Kong

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Amoy Props	9.20	9.05	9.20	9.10
Bk East Asia	26.85	26.40	26.75	26.50
Cathay Pacific	13.15	12.95	13.10	13.15
Cheung Kong	54.50	53.25	53.50	54
China Light	34.90	34.10	34.40	34.40
Chin Estates	7.10	6.90	7.10	6.95
Citic Pacific	29.20	28.55	28.55	29.05
Cons Elec Pwr	13.10	12.90	13	12.85
Dao Heng Bk	30.70	30.40	30.40	30.50
First Pacific	11	10.50	10.60	11.05
Great Eagle	24.20	22.90	24.20	22.95
Guangdong Inv	4.85	4.75	4.75	4.80
Guoco Group	41.40	40.60	40.70	40.30
Hang Lung	14.90	14.45	14.55	14.65
Hang Seng Bk	79.25	78	78.50	79
Henderson Inv	7.20	7.15	7.20	7.20
Henderson Ld	55.50	53.75	55	55
HKR Intl	8.30	8	8	8.40
HK Aircraft	20.55	20.25	20.25	20.55
HK China Gas	15	14.75	14.85	14.85
HK Electric	25.60	25.15	25.20	25.35
HK Shang Hts	12.35	12.10	12.30	12.55
HK Telecomm	15.15	14.85	14.90	15.35
Hopewell Hdgs	5	4.93	4.93	4.93
HSBC Hdgs	117	116	116.50	117
Hutchison Wh	47.70	45.60	47	45.60
Hysan Dev	24	23.60	23.95	23.80
Johnson El 500	13.75	13.60	13.70	13.75
Miramar Hotel	17.10	16.75	16.80	16.85
Natl Mutual	7.35	7.25	7.35	7.20
New World	36.80	35.70	36.40	36.10
Oriental Press	3.15	3.10	3.10	3.15
Oriens Telecom	2.50	2.45	2.45	2.53
Shangri-La	10.90	10.60	10.90	11.25
SHK Props	70.25	69	69.75	70.25
Shun Tak Hdgs	5.50	5.30	5.50	5.40
Sino Land Co.	7.90	7.55	7.65	7.85
Sth China Post	5.40	5.20	5.20	5.40
Swire Pac A	67.25	66.25	66.25	67
Tsim Sha Tsui	8.90	8.75	8.85	8.90
TV Broadcasts	27.50	27.10	27.10	27.50
Wharf Hdgs	29.40	28.70	29.10	28.85
Wheelock	15.20	14.90	15.15	15.10

Hang Seng index: 10836.58
Previous: 10888.50

Jakarta

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Astra Intl	2925	2850	2900	2900
Barito Pacific	2450	2375	2375	2475
Gudang Garm	28200	27800	28100	28200
Indah Kiat	1900	1850	1875	1875
Indocement	8775	8750	8775	8775
Indofood	11600	11275	11400	11600
Indorayon	2450	2425	2425	2450
Indosat	8250	8200	8250	8225
Kalbe Farma	7000	6900	6900	7000
Sampoerna	24650	24175	24500	24900

Composite index: 585.98
Previous: 587.35

Johannesburg

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
AngloAm-Corp	242	241.50	242	243
AngloAm Gold	401	399	400	400
AngloAm Ind	177	177	177	177
Barlow	52.50	52.25	52.25	52.75
C.G. Smith	27.50	27.50	27.50	27.50
De Beers	122.25	121.75	122.25	122.50
Driefontein	59.25	59	59.25	59.65
Freegold	36	35.75	36	36.65
Fst Natl Bk	34.50	34.50	34.50	34.50
Gencor	14.30	14.20	14.30	14.20
GFSA	133	133	133	133
Iscor	3.61	3.58	3.60	3.58
Johnnies Ind	57.75	57.75	57.75	57.75
Kloof Gold	48.50	48	48	48.75
Liberty Life	127	125	125	127
Nedcor	62.50	62.50	62.50	62.50
Rembrandt Gp	35.25	34.75	35.25	35
Richemont	53.75	52.50	53.75	52.50
Rust Platinum	66	65.50	66	65.50
SA Breweries	131.75	130.75	130.75	131.75
Sappi	51.50	50	51.50	50
Sasol	37.65	37.50	37.60	37.75
SBIC	182	182	182	182
Tiger Oats	65	65	65	66

All Market index: 6633.55
Previous: 6645.84

Kuala Lumpur

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Genting	22.90	22.20	22.90	22.30
Hicom Hldgs	5.55	5.50	5.50	5.55
Mal Banking	23.60	23.50	23.50	23.70
Mal Intl Ship F	7.15	7.05	7.15	7.10
Public Bank F	7.15	7.05	7.05	7.05
Resorts World	15.50	14.80	15.40	14.80
Sime Darby	6.90	6.80	6.90	6.85
Telekom Mal	23.10	22.80	23.10	23
Tenaga	11	10.80	10.90	10.80
Utd Engineers	17.20	16.80	17.10	16.80

Composite index: 1126.90
Previous: 1122.53

London

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Abbey Natl	5.79	5.58	5.58	5.60
Allied Domecq	5.07	4.89	4.98	4.91
Anglian Water	6	5.92	5.98	5.93
Argyll Group	3.15	3.12	3.15	3.14
Arjo Wiggins	2.05	2.01	2.01	2.05
Asda Group	1.06	1.01	1.03	1.04
Assoc Br Foods	4.10	4.06	4.07	4.05
BAA	5.42	5.27	5.36	5.27
Barclays	7.40	7.20	7.23	7.23
Bass	7.50	7.35	7.50	7.42
BAT Ind	5.09	4.80	4.84	5.03
Bank Scotland	2.59	2.55	2.56	2.55
BICC	3.43	3.37	3.38	3.42
Blue Circle	3.42	3.35	3.41	3.35
BOC Group	9.10	8.98	9.06	9.03
Boots	6.04	5.95	5.99	5.97
Bowater	3.87	3.69	3.81	3.73
BPB Ind	3.20	3.12	3.15	3.18
Brit Aerosp	8.77	8.12	8.70	8.72
Brit Airways	5.30	4.84	5.20	5.26
Brit Gas	2.35	2.29	2.29	2.33
Brit Petm	5.79	5.63	5.64	5.75
Brit Steel	1.99	1.94	1.99	1.97
Brit Telecom	3.58	3.34	3.47	3.51
BTR	3.36	3.30	3.34	3.34
Burmah Cast	10.33	10.23	10.31	10.25
Cable Wireless	4.95	4.73	4.92	4.81
Cadbury Schw	5.19	5.05	5.12	5.11
Caradon	2.16	2.12	2.12	2.13
Carlton Comm	4.35	4.28	4.35	4.31
Coats Viyella	2	1.98	2	1.98
Comml Union	5.82	5.75	5.82	5.79
Courtaulds	4.44	4.36	4.43	4.37
De La Rue	7.45	7.22	7.30	7.36
Eng China Cl	3.22	3.13	3.13	3.14
Enterprise Oil	4.36	4.28	4.35	4.29
Fam Colonial	1.60	1.56	1.57	1.57
Forte	3.53	3.48	3.50	3.48
Genl Accident	6.37	6.29	6.36	6.32
GEC	3.62	3.52	3.60	3.58
GKN	9.19	9.05	9.15	9.11
Glaxo	8.20	7.95	8.04	8.05
Granada Gp	7.35	7.27	7.35	7.30
Grand Met	4.36	4.25	4.28	4.32
GRE	2.35	2.30	2.31	2.34
Guinness	4.74	4.58	4.70	4.63
GUS	6.87	6.78	6.78	6.83
Hanson	1.92	1.86	1.89	1.90
Hillsdown Hdg	1.84	1.81	1.84	1.85
HSBC Hldgs	9.88	9.72	9.72	9.85
ICI	9.52	9.26	9.40	9.25
Inchcape	2.63	2.53	2.58	2.58
Kingfisher	5.39	5.31	5.33	5.34
Ladbroke	1.93	1.83	1.88	1.88
Land Sec	6.21	6.15	6.20	6.20
Laporte	7.26	7.20	7.26	7.20
Lasmo	1.88	1.85	1.86	1.87
Legal Genl Grp	6.87	6.61	6.77	6.85
Lloyds Abbey	5.28	5.03	5.10	5.11
Lloyds TSB Gp	3.22	3.04	3.12	3.12
London Elec	7.45	7.33	7.40	7.37
Lucas Ind	2.04	1.96	2	1.97
Marks Spencer	4.34	4.25	4.26	4.26
MEPC	4.06	4.01	4.04	4.03
Mercury Asset	8.56	8.50	8.50	8.52
Midlands Elec	4.10	3.98	4.08	3.98
Natl Power	4.78	4.68	4.75	4.69
NatWest	6.58	6.31	6.37	6.31
News Intl	3.12	3.10	3.10	3.10
Utd Utilities	5.99	5.85	5.91	5.94
Nthern Foods	1.94	1.90	1.93	1.93
P&O	5.40	5.23	5.23	5.31
Pearson	6.81	6.70	6.70	6.75
Pilkington	2.17	2.12	2.15	2.18
Powergreen	5.24	5.15	5.22	5.15
Prudential	4.51	4.44	4.46	4.48
Rank Org	5.10	4.98	5.04	5.02
Reckitt Colm	6.84	6.70	6.83	6.75
Redland	4.15	4.08	4.10	4.11
Reed Intl	10.95	10.58	10.85	10.97
Rentokil	3.49	3.46	3.58	3.46
Reuters Hdgs	7	6.86	6.97	6.97
RMC Group	10.10	9.95	9.95	9.96
Rolls Royce	2.18	2.13	2.17	2.15
Royal Bk Scot	5.48	5.34	5.34	5.42
RTZ reg	9.47	9.34	9.39	9.34
Royal Insur	3.66	3.58	3.63	3.62
Sainsbury	3.80	3.74	3.75	3.71
Schroders	12.68	12.30	12.60	12.44
Scot Newcastle	6.50	6.44	6.48	6.46
Scot Power	3.62	3.52	3.61	3.53
Sears	1	0.98	0.99	0.99
Severn Trent	6.42	6.33	6.35	6.63
Shell Trsp reg	8.78	8.55	8.60	8.59
Siebe	8.37	8.23	8.37	8.25
Smith Nephew	1.84	1.82	1.83	1.83
Smith (WH)	4.26	4.20	4.25	4.21
SmithKline dA	6.89	6.48	6.55	6.66
Smiths Ind	7	6.92	7	6.92
Sthern Elec	8.65	8.57	8.63	8.56
Stand Charter	6.14	5.98	6	6.11
Sun Alliance	3.80	3.56	3.68	3.60
Tate & Lyle	4.85	4.80	4.81	4.83
Tesco	2.84	2.76	2.82	2.76
Thames Water	5.65	5.53	5.59	5.55
Thorn EMI	16.38	16.16	16.37	16.13
3i Group	4.21	4.15	4.19	4.18
TI Group	4.90	4.83	4.88	4.89
Tomkins	2.58	2.48	2.56	2.56
Unilever	12.54	12.43	12.50	12.47
Utd Biscuits	2.51	2.45	2.48	2.48
Utd News	6.38	6.22	6.26	6.25
Vendome uts	5.80	5.73	5.74	5.75
Vodafone	2.55	2.43	2.44	2.49
Whitbread	7.03	6.92	6.96	7
Williams Hdgs	3.17	3.13	3.13	3.14
Wolseley	4.63	4.56	4.57	4.60
Zeneca	13.68	13.42	13.44	13.66

FT-SE 100 index: 3685.40
Previous: 3693.00

Madrid

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Acerinox	13580	13370	13540	13400
ACESA	1220	1195	1220	1220
Argentaria	5250	5210	5240	5240
BBV	4615	4585	4600	4625
Banesto	831	822	829	829
Bankinter	12190	11960	12110	12190
Bco Central Hisp	2710	2660	2700	2685
Bco Exterior	3270	3200	3270	3220
Bco Popular	20650	20370	20510	20490
Bco Santander	5780	5650	5780	5640
CEPSA	3985	3865	3980	3985
Corp Mapfre	6670	6400	6520	6430
Dragados	1635	1615	1625	1620
Endesa	6810	6690	6800	6730
FECSA	800	786	795	799
Fomento Const	10900	10550	10890	10790
Gas Natural	20840	20130	20800	20100
Hidroel Cantab	3950	3870	3950	3900
Iberdrola	1140	1100	1130	1120
Pryca	2530	2420	2500	2430
Repsol	4675	4570	4670	4570
Sevillana Elec	887	877	885	877
Tabacalera	5740	5610	5650	5750
Telefonica	2005	1980	1995	1995
Union Fenosa	670	662	670	670
Valenc Cement	1365	1355	1365	1375

Stock Exchange index: 325.11
Previous: N.A.

Manila

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Ayala A	23.50	23.50	23.50	23.50
Ayala Land	39	38	38	38.50
Manila Elec A	155	154	155	154
Metro Bank	615	610	610	615
Petron	12.75	12.50	12.75	13
Phil Long Dist	1490	1485	1490	1,485
San Miguel A	52.50	52	52	52.50
San Miguel B	95.50	94	94	95
SM Prime Hdg	7.80	7.60	7.80	7.70

PSE index: 2859.82
Previous: 2875.42

Mexico

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Alfa A	97.70	96.00	97.50	96.40
Cemex B	29.40	28.60	29.00	29.00
Cifra C	9.66	9.36	9.40	9.54
Empresas ICA	99.70	97.30	98.00	99.70
Emp Moderna	34.20	33.65	33.95	33.90
Femsa	22.20	21.45	21.70	22.00
Gpo Carso A1	53.40	51.70	52.70	51.70
Televisa CPO	98.30	95.60	96.00	98.00
TelMex L	12.28	12.02	12.12	12.18
Tribasa CPO	28.00	27.10	27.10	27.50

Bolsa index: 3004.37
Previous: 3003.84

Milan

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Alleanza Assic	13300	13050	13215	13200
Bca Comm Ital	3250	3200	3210	3280
Bca Naz Agricol	998	990	993	980
Bca Naz Lavoro	12400	12300	12400	12310
Bca di Roma	1437	1395	1413	1411
Bco Ambrosiano	4120	4050	4110	4100
Benetton	16780	16410	16500	16700
Credito Italiano	1734	1696	1723	1735
Fiat	5040	4985	5000	5085
Fondiaria	7090	7000	7040	7090
Generali Assic	36350	36000	36250	36050
IFIL	4875	4790	4845	4845
Italcementi	10600	10550	10555	10605
Italgas	4685	4580	4635	4650
Mediobanca	10110	9980	10090	10025
Montedison	937	920	926	928
Olivetti	819	796	802	810
Pirelli	2190	2155	2170	2210
RAS	16290	15950	16190	16150
Rinascente	10200	10075	10100	10230
S Paolo Torino	8790	8655	8720	8800
SME	1713	1708	1709	1708
Standa	19200	19200	19200	19200
Stet	4535	4480	4520	4525
Telecom Italia	2540	2490	2520	2525
Toro Assic	20500	20100	20500	20100

MIB Telematico index: 9443.00
Previous: 9457.00

Montreal

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Alcan I	18⅛	18	18⅛	18⅛
Bank Montreal	31½	31¼	31⅜	31⅜
Bce Mob Com	46¾	46½	46⅝	46½
Cdn Tire A	16⅛	16	16⅛	16¼
Cdn Util A	26	25⅝	26	25⅝
Cascades	6¼	6⅛	6⅛	6⅛
CT Finl Svc	N.T.	N.T.	N.T.	27
Extendicare	36¾	36¾	36¾	37
Gaz Metro	15⅛	14⅞	15⅛	15
Gt-West Lifeco	30½	30¼	30½	29⅞
Hees Intl Bcp	15¼	15	15⅛	15
Hudsons Bay	16⅝	16⅛	16⅛	16⅝
Imasco	25½	25¼	25½	25⅝
Investors Grp	N.T.	N.T.	N.T.	18
Loblaw Cos	N.T.	N.T.	N.T.	34⅛
Molson A	23¾	23½	23¾	23¾
Natl Bk Canada	11⅝	11⅝	11⅝	11½
Oshawa A	N.T.	N.T.	N.T.	22⅛
Pancdn Petlm	N.T.	N.T.	N.T.	50⅝
Power Corp	19⅞	19⅝	19½	19⅝
Power Finl	N.T.	N.T.	N.T.	33⅛
Quebecor B	22⅝	22⅛	22½	22½
Rogers Comm B	12⅝	12½	12⅝	12⅝
Royal Bk Cda	31⅜	31⅛	31⅜	31⅜
Sears Canada	6⅝	6⅛	6½	6⅛
Shell Cda A	46⅝	46⅛	46⅝	46
Southam	16⅛	15⅞	16	16
Stelco A	6⅛	5¾	6	5⅞
Triton Finl A	4.85	4.80	4.85	4.85

Industrials index: 2521.23
Previous: 2527.27

Oslo

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Aker A	115	113	114	115
Bergesen Dy B	115	111	112	115.50
Christiania Bk	15.80	15.60	15.60	15.80
Den Norske Bk	21	20.80	20.90	21
Dt Norsk Luft	307	305	306	306
Dyno Indust	145	142.50	142.50	146
Elkem	87	85.50	85.50	87
Hafslund A	187.50	186	187	187.50
Kvaerner	230.50	227	227	231
Leif Hoegh	N.T.	N.T.	N.T.	89.50
Norsk Hydro	280.50	279	280.50	282
Norske Skog A	206	202	202	208
Orkla	299	295	296.50	298
Rieber B	N.T.	N.T.	N.T.	135
Saga Petim B	74	73.50	73.50	74
Schibsted	90	89	89	90
UniStorebr A	35.90	32	32.30	33.20

OBX index: 432.20
Previous: 436.52

Paris

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Accor	732	722	728	724
AGF	144.50	141	142	144
Air Liquide	890	871	890	876
Alcatel Alsth	431.70	425.40	430.90	427.80
Axa	304.40	299.10	304.30	301
Bancaire	498	492	498	493
BNP	196	191.10	194.20	193.10
Bouygues	482	474	476.90	481.30
Canal Plus	1129	1060	1126	1070
Carrefour	3489	3452	3472	3471
CCF	243	235.10	241.10	238.60
CarnaudMB	210	203.50	203.50	206
Credit Local cl	405	399	404	398.40
Credit Lyon PC	215	208	208.10	215.10
Danone	783	768	775	772
Elf-Aquitaine	355	350.50	353.20	352.60
Eridania BS	854	842	853	854
Euro Disney	13.90	13.35	13.55	13.80
Eurotunnel uts	6	5.85	5.90	6
Gen. Eaux	499.90	494.10	495.70	499.70
Havas	409.50	400	409.50	401.20
Lafarge Cop	348.90	343.20	344.10	348.50
Legrand	882	861	882	867
L'Oreal	1428	1391	1436	1400
LVMH	1149	1123	1137	1137
Lyon. Eaux	462	457	458.40	462
Michelin B	234	230.60	231.50	234.50
Navig Mixte	801	800	800	800
Paribas A	286	284.10	284.50	284
Pechiney SA	214.90	212.70	214.20	216
Pernod Ricard	322	313.20	321.50	316.50
Peugeot Cit	784	770	776	787
Pinault-Print	1150	1135	1150	1140
Promodes	1289	1262	1269	1285
Renault	141.80	138.50	140	144
Rh-Poulenc A	124.90	123.50	124.40	124.80
Roussel-Uclaf	1068	1042	1057	1068
Sanofi	368.60	363.70	367	368.60
Schneider	223.90	219.30	220	224
Ste Generale	549	542	543	545
St Gobain	644	635	640	643
St Louis	1454	1438	1437	1430
Suez	193.90	189.30	191.50	192.50
Thomson CSF	116	113.10	114.60	114
Total B	335.50	330.80	334	331
UAP	109.70	104.70	105.20	109
Valeo	263	256	261.50	265.80

CAC-40 index: 1969.79
Previous: 1967.20

São Paulo

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Bco Brasil Pfd	N.T.	N.T.	N.T.	13.85
Banespa Pfd	4.65	4.50	4.60	4.60
Bradesco Pfd	10.81	9.70	10.00	10.00
Brahma Pfd	477.00	474.00	474.00	476.00
Cemig Pfd	26.70	25.70	26.58	26.20
CESP Pfd	33.90	33.30	33.50	34.40
Eletrobras B	253.00	248.00	252.00	253.00
Itaubanco Pfd	340.00	337.00	339.00	342.00
Light	320.00	318.01	320.00	320.01
Paranapan Pfd	13.60	13.30	13.50	13.60
Petrobras Pfd	115.00	110.00	114.99	114.00
Sid Nacional	27.50	27.20	27.35	27.80
Souza Cruz	7.05	6.99	7.05	7.20
Telebras Pfd	49.40	47.20	49.30	48.70
Telesp Pfd	170.00	165.00	169.99	172.00
Usiminas Pfd	1.050	1.020	1.050	1.070
CVRD Pfd	148.50	144.50	148.00	148.50

Bovespa index: 48683.60
Previous: 48515.30

Seoul

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Daewoo Heavy	7850	7700	7710	7650
Hyundai Eng	37600	37000	37600	37000
Hyundai Motor	39300	38700	39200	38700
Korea El Pwr	29900	29600	29700	29700
Korea Mob Tel	650000	642000	645000	641000
LG Electronics	22000	21500	22000	21300
Pohang Iron St	57900	55900	57500	55400
Samsung Elec	96900	92900	96900	91500
Samsung Hvy	16600	16000	14300	16000
Yukong	26200	25500	25500	25500

Composite index: 869.98
Previous: 860.13

Singapore

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Cerebos Pac	12.70	12.60	12.60	12.90
City Devts	11.90	11.60	11.60	11.80
Cycle Carriage	15.70	15.50	15.70	15.60
Dairy Farm Int *	0.94	0.93	0.93	0.93
DBS	9.80	9.70	9.75	9.90
DBS Land	5.55	5.20	5.20	5.45
Fraser & Neave	16.30	15.80	15.90	16
HK Land *	2.25	2.21	2.24	2.25
Hong Leong Fin	4	3.98	4	4
Jard Matheson *	7.75	7.45	7.50	7.65
Jard Strategic *	3.30	3.22	3.24	3.30
Keppel	12.80	12.70	12.80	12.70
Natsteel	2.79	2.78	2.79	2.77
Neptune Orient	1.61	1.57	1.59	1.60
OCBC foreign	19.60	18.80	19	19.50
O'Sea Union Bk	7.15	7.10	7.15	7.15
Sembawang	7.40	7.30	7.40	7.30
Sing Airlines F	14.50	14.10	14.20	14.60
Sing Petm	1.75	1.70	1.70	1.75
Sing Press F	29.40	28.70	29.10	29.40
ST Auto F	3.10	3.04	3.10	3.10
ST Ship	2.56	2.55	2.55	2.48
Sing Telecomm	3.38	3.28	3.36	3.32
Straits Steam	4.72	4.56	4.58	4.66
Utd Industrial	1.49	1.46	1.47	1.49
Utd O'Sea Bk F	15.10	14.30	14.30	14.90
Wing Tai Hdgs	3.60	3.50	3.60	3.56

*: in U.S. dollars.
Straits Times index: 2383.96
Previous: 2385.30

Stockholm

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
AGA BF	99.50	98	99.50	99.50
Asea AF	699	687	695	700
AssiDoman F	159	156	156	160
Astra AF	311	306.50	308.50	311.50
Atlas Copco AF	122	120	121	122
Avesta F	68.50	67.50	67.90	69
Electrolux BF	343	338	342	340
Ericsson BF	153.50	150.50	151	154.50
Hennes BF	485	480	483	487
Incentive AF	350	343	346	347
Investor BF	273.50	271	273	272
Kinnevik BF	232.50	227	230	230.50
MoDo BF	357	351	352.50	359
Sandvik BF	137.50	135.50	136.50	137.50
SCA BF	123	120.50	123	122
S-E Banken AF	51.50	49.40	51.50	49.50
Skandia Fors F	156.50	152	156.50	153.50
Skanska BF	209	203	207	206
SKF BF	159.50	157	159	160
SSAB BF	82	80.50	82	81.50
Stora AF	92	90.50	91.50	93
Sv Handles AF	133.50	129	132.50	130
Sydkraft AF	145	143	143	145
Trelleborg BF	83.50	82.50	83	84
Volvo BF	155	152	155	154.50

SX 16 index: 2084.75
Previous: 2097.12

Sydney

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Amcor	8.65	8.56	8.61	8.80
ANZ Bkng	6.35	6.23	6.28	6.33
BHP	18.73	18.50	18.60	18.60
Boral	3.38	3.34	3.40	3.38
Brambles Ind.	16.20	16.10	16.10	16.20
Burns Philip	2.90	2.80	2.82	2.90
CBA	10.20	10.05	10.05	10.14
CC Amatil	12.83	12.68	12.70	12.86
Coles Myer	4.37	4.26	4.29	4.32
Comalco	7.25	7	7.24	7.25
CRA Ltd	19.56	19.50	19.58	19.46
CSR	4.36	4.30	4.32	4.33
Fosters Brew	2.28	2.25	2.25	2.30
GIO Australia	2.85	2.79	2.84	2.85
Goodman Fld	1.36	1.34	1.35	1.35
ICI Australia	11.28	11	11	11.20
John Fairfax	2.87	2.82	2.83	2.87
Lend Lease	19.09	18.80	18.82	19.15
Mayne Nickless	6.70	6.62	6.70	6.70
MIM Hdgs	1.88	1.79	1.86	1.79
Nat Aust Bank	11.84	11.64	11.67	11.83
News Corp	7.54	7.47	7.47	7.50
North Ltd	3.82	3.82	3.83	3.80
Pacific Dunlop	2.99	2.96	2.99	2.97
Pioneer Intl	3.93	3.90	3.91	3.94
Placer Pacific	2.54	2.50	2.52	2.49
Santos	4.39	4.35	4.38	4.40
Southcorp	3	3.30	3.33	3.29
Wesfarmers	8.30	8.15	8.30	8.15
Western Mining	8.69	8.62	8.66	8.59
Westfield Trt	2.25	2.23	2.24	2.24
Westpac Bkng	6.15	6.04	6.06	6.08
Woodside Pet	7.08	6.94	6.96	7.05
Woolworths	3.22	3.16	3.17	3.21

All Ordinaries index: 2249.40
Previous: 2256.30

Taipei

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Asia Cement	46	45.20	46	45.20
Cathay Life Ins	122.50	121	122	120.50
Chang Hwa Bk	105	103.50	104.50	103.50
China Steel	20.70	20.50	20.60	20.40
China Trust	43.50	42.50	43.20	42.90
Evergreen	47.60	46.70	47.50	47
Far East Text	25.30	24.60	25.10	24.50
First Bank	108	106.50	107	106.50
Formosa CF	25.80	25.30	25.70	25.20
Hua Nan Bk	93.50	91.50	92.50	91
Hualon Teijran	17.20	16.60	17.20	16.30
ICBC	77	75.50	76.50	75.50
President Ent	32.80	32.40	32.80	32.30
Taiwan Cemt	39	38.50	39	38.50
Tatung	50.50	49.80	50	49.60

Stock Market index: 5048.51
Previous: 4938.32

Market Closed

The Tokyo stock market was closed Wednesday for a holiday.

Toronto

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Abitibi Price	20⅛	19⅝	19⅝	20
Air Canada	4.70	4.60	4.65	4.60
Alberta Energy	26⅛	25⅝	25⅞	25⅞
Alcan Alum	46	44½	44⅝	46
Avenor A	20¼	20⅛	20⅛	20⅝
Bk Nova Scotia	31⅛	30⅞	30⅞	30⅞
Barrick Gold	39¼	38⅞	39	38⅞
BCE	48⅛	48⅛	48⅞	48
BC Telecomm	25½	25⅛	25½	25⅝
Bombardier B	20⅝	20⅛	20½	20⅛
Brascan A	24⅛	23⅞	24	24
Cameco	73⅜	72½	72¾	72⅞
CIBC	41⅛	41	41	41
Cdn Airlines	2.80	2.65	2.80	2.80
Cdn Nat Res	24	23⅞	23⅞	23⅞
Cdn Occid Pet	45	44⅛	44⅜	44⅜
Cdn Pacific	28	27⅞	27⅞	27⅞
Cominco	31⅞	31⅛	31⅛	31⅛
Consumers Gas	20⅛	20⅛	20¼	20⅛
Dofasco	21⅛	20⅞	21⅛	21⅛
Doman Ind B	9⅝	9½	9⅝	9⅝
Du Pont Cda A	28⅛	28⅛	28⅛	28⅛
Echo Bay Min	17⅛	17⅛	17⅜	17⅛
Empire Co. A	12⅛	12⅛	12⅛	12
Falconbridge	28⅛	28⅛	28⅛	28⅛
Fletcher Chall A	19	18⅝	18⅝	18⅝
Franco Nevada	81⅛	81⅛	81½	81⅛
Guardian Cap A	N.T.	N.T.	N.T.	9⅜
Hemlo Gold	18⅛	17½	18⅛	17⅝
Horsham	19⅞	19⅝	19⅝	19⅝
Imperial Oil	51⅛	50⅝	50⅝	50⅝
Inco	48⅝	46½	46⅝	48⅝
IPL Energy	32⅞	32⅛	32¼	32⅜
Laidlaw A	14⅛	14	14⅛	14⅛
Laidlaw B	14⅛	14⅛	14⅛	14⅛
Loewen Group	39⅞	39	39⅛	39⅞
Ldn Insur Gp	28	27⅞	27⅞	27⅞
Macmill Bld	18⅜	18⅛	18⅝	18⅜
Magna Intl A	60⅞	60⅛	60½	60⅝
Maple Leaf Fds	7	6⅞	7	7
Moore	26⅞	26½	26⅞	26⅝
Newbridge Net	69	68	68⅞	68⅞
Noranda Inc	29⅞	28⅞	28⅞	29⅛
Noranda Forest	8⅝	8½	8½	8⅝
Norcen Energy	20⅝	20½	20⅝	20⅝
Nthern Telecom	68	67½	67⅞	67⅞
Nova	12⅝	12⅝	12⅝	12⅝
Onex	14½	14⅛	14½	14⅛
Placer Dome	38⅛	37½	37⅞	37⅞
Potash Sask	89½	87⅞	89½	87½
Provigo	7⅜	7½	7⅜	7⅜
Quebecor Print	25⅛	25	25⅛	25⅛
Renaissance	36	35⅛	35⅜	36
Rio Algom	25⅛	25⅛	25⅛	25⅛
Seagram Co	45	44⅝	44⅝	44⅝
Stone Consold	17	16½	16⅝	17
Talisman Eny	31⅞	31⅛	31⅞	31½
Teleglobe	20⅜	20⅛	20⅛	20⅛
Telus	16⅝	16⅛	16½	16½
Thomson	20⅛	20	20	20
TorDom Bank	23⅜	23½	23⅛	23⅛
Transalta	14⅝	14½	14⅝	14⅝
TransCda Pipe	19⅛	19	19⅛	19⅛
Utd Dominion	32½	32⅛	32⅛	32⅛
Westburn	9⅛	9½	9⅛	9⅛
Westcoast Eny	20⅞	20½	20⅞	20½
Weston	48½	47⅞	48	47⅞

TSE Industrials index: 4961.34
Previous: 4967.27

Vienna

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Aust Airlines	1874	1874	1600	1600
Brau-Un Goess	583	579	583	588
Bund Vers Pfd	447.50	441.50	490	490
Creditanst PC	1560	1560	1490	1490
EA-Generali	3340	3260	3340	3300
EVN	1374	1341	1374	1344
Interunfall	1560	1560	1570	1570
Lenzing	845	840	844	845
Leykam	368	365	365	364
Mayr-Melnhof	525	522	523	524
OEMV	939	932	936	938
Oest Brau-Bet	540	534	540	535
Oest Elektriz	715	705	715	706
VA Tech	1334	1325	1331	1338
Wienerberger	2265	2220	2265	2235

ATX index: 1068.64
Previous: 1056.84

Wellington

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Air N Zeald B	3.50	3.40	3.50	3.40
Brierly Invt	1.34	1.32	1.34	1.32
Carter Holt ord	3.20	3.10	3.20	3.10
Fernz	4.50	4.40	4.50	4.40
Fisher Paykel	4.55	4.52	4.55	4.52
Fletcher Chall	3.27	3.20	3.24	3.20
FC Forest	1.95	1.92	1.95	1.92
Goodman Fder	1.55	1.53	1.55	1.54
Indep News	5.40	5.35	5.40	5.35
Lion Nathan	3.54	3.51	3.54	3.51
Nat Gas note	2.07	2.06	2.07	2.06
NZ Refining	23.30	23.30	23.30	23.50
Telecom NZ	6.64	6.53	6.63	6.58
Trust Bk NZ	2.25	2.16	2.24	2.15
Wilson Horton	9.45	9.40	9.40	9.50

NZSE-40 index: 2151.20
Previous: 2123.20

Zurich

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Adia B	235	233	235	234
Alusuisse R	998	984	991	999
Ares-Serono B	911	911	911	905
Baer Hdg B	1360	1320	1335	1315
Baloise Hdg R	2580	2535	2535	2565
BBC B	1465	1458	1462	1457
Bk Vision	1615	1590	1612	1600
Bobst B	1870	1855	1870	1850
Ciba Geigy R	1430	1411	1430	1419
CS Holdings R	111	109.50	110	110.75
Elektrowatt B	431	425	425	430
Fischer B	1480	1450	1450	1457
HBN PC	965	955	965	965
Holderbank B	922	910	916	917
Merkur Hdg R	256	251.25	252	253.50
Nestle R	1375	1367	1370	1370
Oerlikon R	129	125	129	124.50
Pargesa Hld B	1470	1460	1470	1450
PharmVisn B	4300	4245	4245	4240
Pirelli B	148	147	147	147
Roche Hdg PC	9650	9610	9630	9680
Sandoz R	1240	1329	1340	1327
SBC B	450	444	445	452
Schindler B	1400	1360	1400	1367
SGS B	2520	2505	2530	2520
SMH B	727	712	716	726
Sulzer R	780	765	765	779
Swiss Reins R	1256	1233	1244	1259
Swissair R	1235	1195	1229	1191
UBS B	1325	1307	1332	1311
Winterthur B	796	790	790	796
Zurich Assur R	349	343	349	347

SPI index: 2304.54
Previous: 2299.18

هدية من الأهل

EU Calls for Outlays On Transportation

By Tom Buerkle
International Herald Tribune

BRUSSELS — Despite opposition from Europe's leading finance ministers, the European Union's executive commission Wednesday appealed directly to national leaders to raise spending on transportation projects as a way of reviving the EU's sagging economy.

Jacques Santer, the president of the commission, also reiterated his determination to push for a new employment chapter in the Union's governing treaties when EU leaders meet in Turin on March 29 to begin revising those accords.

"It is essential to show European citizens that their major concern, the fight against unemployment, is at the heart of the EU agenda," Mr. Santer said.

The proposals put Mr. Santer on a collision course with his chief backer up to now, Chancellor Helmut Kohl of Germany. On Tuesday, Mr. Kohl warned Germans to brace for "massive" spending cuts as the country worked to qualify for the single European currency.

Germany sought to strike a preemptive blow against Mr. Santer's plan last week at an EU finance ministers' meeting. It persuaded the EU's main budget contributors, including Britain, France, the Netherlands, Sweden and Austria, to oppose any spending increase as unacceptable when national governments were cutting budgets to meet the criteria for monetary union.

But Mr. Santer vowed to fight on. The spending plan, he said, would help restore confidence in Europe's economy and make good on the repeated promises of EU leaders to complete 14 cross-border transportation projects including a high-speed rail line linking Paris, London, Brussels, Amsterdam and Cologne.

"It's not enough to simply adopt white papers," he said. "They have to be implemented."

Mr. Santer stressed that EU spending would be less than was budgeted even with the increase, as reduced farm subsidies resulting from strong world grain markets should lead to a shortfall in EU farm spending of 4 billion Ecus ($5.12 billion) through 1999. The commission wants to use only half of that money on transportation projects and to refund 2 billion Ecus to national treasuries.

The spending proposal, approved by the 20-member commission at its weekly meeting Wednesday, would devote 1 billion Ecus to the transportation projects in 1997-99 on top of 1.8 billion Ecus already committed. It also would spend an extra 700 million Ecus on research and development, 40 million Ecus on aid for small businesses and modest amounts for other projects designed to win support from various national capitals.

German officials said the government continued to oppose any spending increase but hinted at flexibility by acknowledging that the final budget must be negotiated with the Parliament, which strongly backs Mr. Santer's proposal.

The proposal for a treaty chapter on employment may hold even more controversy. German officials fear a jobs provision would effectively rewrite the Maastricht criteria for monetary union and produce a weaker single currency.

Ukraine Steps Up Privatization Pace

Most Firms Are to Be Sold by Year-End

Reuters

KIEV — Prime Minister Leonid Kuchma has issued a decree ordering the privatization of most state-owned companies by the end of this year, according to the State Property Fund.

"The decree envisages completing privatization of small firms in 1996 and auctioning share stakes in large and medium-sized firms for privatization certificates," Yuri Yekhanurov, who heads the fund, said late Tuesday.

Mr. Kuchma pledged in January to revive the country's stalled privatization efforts.

Ukraine fell short of its goal for selling off state-owned businesses last year, and the drive remains far behind that of Russia.

Ukraine halted the sell-off of its oil and gas companies in November amid allegations that rules governing the sale had been violated.

That sale still has not gone forward. Last year, only 39 percent of about 8,000 large and medium-sized companies were turned over to the private sector, and 51 percent of the state's small businesses were sold. Mr. Yekhanurov said the number of privatized small companies should reach 30,000 by the end of the year.

Ukraine pledged last year that it would push ahead with the sell-off of state-owned companies to assure itself of about $1 billion in assistance from the World Bank. The loans were predicated on Ukraine's commitment to economic reforms.

Mr. Kuchma's decree Tuesday also brought forward to July 1 from Dec. 31 the deadline for Ukrainian citizens to obtain privatization certificates.

Auctions in which individuals can exchange their certificates for shares will be held until the end of the year.

Outside Funds for Lukoil?

Reuters

MOSCOW — Lukoil, Russia's biggest oil company in terms of reserves, may be selling a big stake to a foreign broker.

Lukoil declined to comment Wednesday, and some dealers said they were not aware of any such agreement, but other traders said a transaction was in the works.

One trader said Lukoil also had a big buyer for a package of convertible bonds being tendered March 29. Lukoil has issued 140,000 bonds against 3 percent of its shares. The minimum price of each bond is 4.5 million rubles ($931), and each bond is to be converted into 170 shares on the first working day after April 5. These shares derive from an 11 percent stake currently owned by the government.

Fokker Draws Interest From Saab Aircraft

The Associated Press

STOCKHOLM — Saab Aircraft AB and another Swedish concern, FFV Aerotech, said Wednesday that they were considering buying parts of the failed Dutch aircraft maker Fokker NV.

Saab said it might be interested in general operations unconnected with certain aircraft models.

"We have visited Fokker and made an unbiased study to see if there are operations that we would be interested in acquiring or if there are possibilities for cooperation," said Anders Annerfalk, a spokesman.

FFV Aerotech, a subsidiary of the defense contractor Celsius AB, said it might be interested in Fokker's product-support activities.

Neither company has begun formal negotiations or made formal proposals to Fokker, which announced last week that it would close three units that made up 90 percent of its activities: Fokker NV, Fokker Aircraft BV and Fokker Administrations BV. Fokker also said it would lay off about 5,600 workers, fewer than 1,000 of whom might be rehired.

Fokker said it planned to put several of its more viable units together under the name Fokker Aviation BV. "Time is not our friend," said Leo Steijn, a company spokesman. "The longer you wait, the less chance there is of resurrecting the company with the right people."

Swissair to Trim 1,200 More Jobs

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

ZURICH — Swissair Group said Wednesday it would shed 1,200 jobs by 1998 in a round of cost-cutting that should add 500 million Swiss francs ($419.6 million) to earnings.

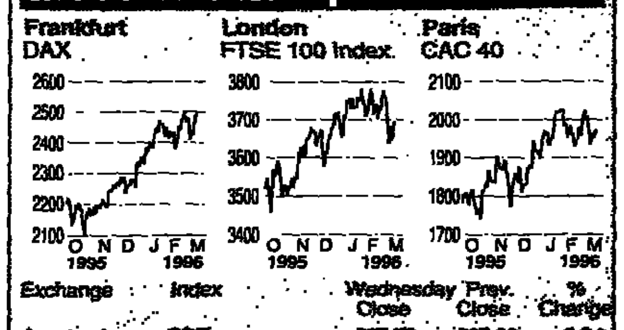
The company said the majority of the reduction, which represents about 3 percent of its work force, would be made through early-retirement offers. The latest cutbacks are in addition to the 1,600 jobs that the company, which comprises airline, catering and hotel units, said in September it would eliminate.

Swissair also said it planned to raise its load factor, or percentage of seats occupied, to 70 percent from 65 percent through organizational changes and an improved sales structure while cutting costs for each available seat and kilometer flown by 17 percent.

(Bloomberg, AP)

Investor's Europe

Exchange	Index	Wednesday Close	Prev. Close	% Change
Amsterdam	EOE	527.72	527.93	-0.04
Brussels	Stock Exchange	8,722.95	8,721.20	+0.02
Frankfurt	DAX	2,485.90	2,493.26	-0.30
Copenhagen	Stock Market	378.71	378.55	+0.04
Helsinki	HEX General	1,881.16	1,897.16	-0.84
Oslo	OBX	432.20	436.52	-0.99
London	FTSE 100	3,685.40	36,93.60	-0.21
Madrid	Stock Exchange	335.11	N.A.	-
Milan	MIBTEL	9,461.00	9,457.00	+0.04
Paris	CAC 40	1,969.79	1,967.20	+0.13
Stockholm	SX 16	2,084.75	2,097.12	-0.59
Vienna	ATX	1,060.64	1,056.64	+0.38
Zurich	SPI	2,304.54	2,299.18	+0.23



Source: Telekurs International Herald Tribune

Very briefly:

- **Sociedad Española de Automóviles de Turismo SA** posted a 1995 loss of 11.29 billion pesetas ($91.1 million), narrowed from a loss of 29.47 billion pesetas a year earlier. SEAT, a subsidiary of **Volkswagen AG**, is to give full results May 9.
- **The European Commission** is to tell Spain to compensate the Airtel mobile-phone consortium because the group led by **AirTouch Communications Inc.** agreed to pay 85 billion pesetas for a license, while the state-controlled company **Telefónica de España SA** did not pay to operate its system.
- **Crédit Commercial de France**'s 1995 profit rose 2.3 percent, to 1.23 billion francs ($243.1 million), as the bank cut provisions for bad loans and improved risk management.
- **Renault** shares fell 4 francs, to 144, on investor concern over the 1.7 billion-franc operating loss for 1995 posted by the company's car division.
- **Canal Plus SA**'s shares rose 56 francs, or 5 percent, to 1,126, on the company's positive 1995 earnings report and news that it will start digital-television service in France on April 27.
- **Bic SA**'s 1995 net profit fell 22 percent from 1994, when a one-time gain of 339 million francs inflated earnings. The maker of pens, razors and lighters said profit dropped to 598 million francs from 763 million francs. Sales fell 6 percent, to 5.99 billion francs.
- **Harrisons & Crosfield PLC**'s 1995 pretax profit dropped to £119.6 million from £236.7 million; the 1994 figure included £143.4 million in one-time gains. The chemicals and building-supplies company said its 1996 profit would be restrained by a slump in the construction sector.
- **Marley PLC**, a British building-materials company, said 1995 pretax profit fell 9 percent, to £43.6 million, as operating margins were squeezed by slowing housing markets; the company is to sell part of its automotive division for £53.2 million to **Magna International Inc.** of Canada.
- **Oftel**, the British telecommunications regulator, proposed limiting the prices **British Telecommunications PLC** can charge starting in 1997, a move that could cut BT's cash flow by 31 percent.

AFX, Bloomberg, Reuters

SCA's Profit Soared in '95 as Paper Prices Rose

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

STOCKHOLM — Svenska Cellulosa AB, one of Europe's largest forestry companies, said Wednesday its profit before taxes but after financial items rose more than five times last year because it had been able to raise prices and because units it bought had earned more than expected.

Pretax profit surged to 5.73 billion kronor ($850 million) from 1.06 billion kronor in 1994. Analysts had widely expected a figure of less than 5.60 billion. Net profit rose to 3.46 billion kronor from 555 million kronor, while operating profit leaped to 7.35 billion kronor from 1.81 billion kronor.

The company's shares rose 1 krona, to 123, on the Stockholm stock exchange.

Sales almost doubled, to 65.32 billion kronor in 1995 from 33.68 billion kronor the year before, mainly because of higher prices, the company said. Of the sales, 91 percent went to customers outside Sweden, compared with a ratio of 84 percent in 1994.

"This was a quite strong report, slightly better than expected," said Bjoern Danckwardt-Lillestroem, an industry analyst at Svenska Handelsbanken. "Especially the hygiene products were clearly better than expected."

The company raised its dividend to 4.75 kronor a share from 3.75 kronor in 1994.

But management, which said business in 1995 had begun strongly but turned "substantially weaker after the summer," was not optimistic about 1996.

"Great uncertainty prevails regarding the trend of the economy in Europe," the company said. "A general slowdown in economic growth is now already apparent. As a result of this trend, raw material prices have begun to decline."

Like other forestry companies, SCA has suffered from a rise in inventories and falling prices for its main products.

It said the price for pulp, a benchmark industry product used to make higher-value items such as hygiene products, tissue and paper, had fallen from $1,000 a metric ton in October to about $500 a ton now.

Sales of hygiene products rose 72 percent, to 24.81 billion kronor, including 8.67 billion kronor from Papierwerke Waldhof-Aschaffenburg AG of Germany, a unit in which SCA bought a 75 percent stake last year.

(Bloomberg, AFP, Reuters)

AMEX

Wednesday's 4 p.m. Close
The top 300 most-active shares, up to the closing on Wall Street.
The Associated Press

Stock	Sales	High	Low	Latest	Chge
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

U. S. STOCK MARKET DIARY

Indexes

Dow Jones

	Open	High	Low	Last	Chg.
Indus	5682.88	5683.96	5614.48	5655.42	—14.09
Trans	2218.86	2220.81	2176.23	2194.50	—20.71
Util	214.22	214.71	212.76	214.08	+0.13
Comp	1851.30	1850.96	1826.32	1839.49	—8.09

Standard & Poors

	Previous High	Low	Close	Today 3:00
Industrials	777.70	769.72	771.94	765.28
Transp.	531.58	526.01	529.47	519.07
Utilities	192.63	190.80	192.00	192.07
Finance	66.50	65.82	65.99	66.07
SP 500	656.18	649.80	651.69	647.34
SP 100	634.99	628.82	630.76	625.52

NYSE

	High	Low	Last	Chg.
Composite	349.36	346.89	348.20	—0.35
Industrials	443.53	438.90	441.47	—1.42
Transp.	334.26	328.16	329.76	—3.83
Utility	246.30	244.80	246.30	+1.12
Finance	291.70	289.46	291.57	+1.75

Nasdaq

	High	Low	Last	Chg.
Composite	1111.45	1099.75	1102.12	—10.38
Industrials	1023.25	1014.58	1017.98	—3.21
Banks	1041.99	1038.51	1040.19	+1.38
Insurance	1304.47	1298.44	1302.92	—4.20
Finance	1270.23	1268.16	1269.87	—0.37
Transp.	892.59	887.76	889.17	—0.84

AMEX

High	Low	Last	Chg.
567.27	563.36	567.27	+2.70

Dow Jones Bond

	Close	Chg.
20 Bonds	103.68	+0.22
10 Utilities	99.93	+0.18
10 Industrials	107.44	+0.28

Most Actives

NYSE

	Vol.	High	Low	Last	Chg.
PhilMr	118365	89⅞	86¾	89⅝	+3
Digital	110250	62¼	55½	55⅞	—11⅞
IBM	75157	120⅝	114⅜	117⅛	—4⅝
MicmT s	63993	32¾	31⅛	32¼	—1
Compaq	55611	39¼	37⅜	38	—2⅜
TelMex	48245	22⅝	21¼	21⅞	—⅜
Seagate	43480	57½	53½	54⅛	—3⅝
HewlPk s	42261	100	94⅜	97¼	—1
Merck	39679	63⅛	62⅛	63	+⅞
K mart	38129	10	9½	10	+⅛
FordM	36174	34⅛	33⅜	33¾	+¼
RJRNab s	35582	30⅝	29⅞	30⅝	+⅝
NiaMP	34743	6⅝	6½	6⅝	—⅛
FedNM	31154	33⅛	32	33¼	+1⅜
Motorola	29567	56⅝	54½	54⅝	—1⅞

Nasdaq

	Vol.	High	Low	Last	Chg.
Trimed	180362	16¼	10⅞	10⅞	+⅜
Intel s	147907	58¼	55⅝	55⅝	—3⅜
Cisco s	96371	48⅝	44⅝	46	—2⅝
SunMic s	91740	46	43⅜	43⅝	—2⅜
Microsft	57998	106⅜	103⅝	104⅝	—2¼
Altera s	46033	65½	59⅛	61⅞	—3⅝
NbleDr	44460	12⅝	11⅝	12⅛	+⅝
SumitTc s	38467	25⅞	23	24⅛	—3
ApldMat s	37532	36⅛	34½	35⅝	—½
Telelek	36393	9⅞	6⅞	7⅝	—1⅞
3Com s	35904	44⅞	42⅝	43	—1⅝
DellCpt s	35749	33	31	32⅛	—1⅝
Novell	32795	13¼	12⅞	13	—⅛
Rodius	29747	3⅝	3⅛	3⅞	—⅜
Iomega s	29594	23¼	22⅛	22⅞	—⅝

AMEX

	Vol.	High	Low	Last	Chg.
ViacB	28801	41⅛	39	41¼	+1⅞
TWA n	10706	18	17⅝	17⅝	+⅛
Hearx n	9725	6⅛	5⅝	5⅞	—⅛
Ampex n	8511	6¾	5⅞	6⅝	+1⅛
SPDR	7416	65⅝	64⅞	65⅞	—¼
CentenT s	6738	18⅝	17⅝	17⅝	—1
XCL Ltd	6118	¼	¼	¼	+1/16
ToySrce	6098	6⅝	5⅝	6⅛	+⅛
Dialcon	5953	11⅜	10⅝	10⅞	+⅜
PegGld	5365	14	13⅞	13⅞	—⅛

Trading Activity

NYSE

	Close	Prev.
Advanced	1150	1295
Declined	1205	1098
Unchanged	747	731
Total issues	3102	3114
New Highs	123	151
New Lows	12	16

Nasdaq

	Close	Prev.
Advanced	1689	1833
Declined	2000	1850
Unchanged	1682	1688
Total issues	5371	5371
New Highs	157	195
New Lows	55	49

AMEX

	Close	Prev.
Advanced	252	294
Declined	305	285
Unchanged	202	208
Total issues	759	787
New Highs	17	26
New Lows	13	9

Market Sales

	Today Close	Prev. cons.
NYSE	408.99	540.79
Amex	23.87	31.27
Nasdaq	482.62	520.59

In millions.

Dividends

Company	Per	Amt	Rec	Pay
IRREGULAR				
Cross TimbersRlty	-	.0827	3-29	4-12
Industrial Bncp	b	3.50	4-17	5-15
McIntyre MasterLP	g	1.58	3-29	4-5
MrgnStan Em Dbt	-	.36	3-29	4-15
MrgnStan Glb Opp	-	.40	3-29	4-15
MrgnStan HI Yld	-	.12	3-29	4-15
Permian Basin	-	.0109	3-29	4-12
Templeton Em Mkt	-	.31	3-29	4-15
Templeton GlbGv	-	.05	3-29	4-15
b- one time capital distribution.				
STOCK SPLIT				
Cambridge Tech 3 for 1 split subject to shareholder approval, pay dates unannounced.				
Chubb Corp 2 for 1 split.				
Ciprico Inc 3 for 2 split.				
Patco Animal 3 for 2 split.				
STOCK				
Allegheny Pwr	-	2%	4-1	4-17
INCREASED				
Annapolis Bncshrs	Q	.0625	3-29	4-12
Bridgeville Svgs	Q	.08	3-27	4-17
Cole Taylor Fcl	Q	.09	3-31	4-10
Independ BkCp MI	Q	.24	4-5	4-30
Klamath First	Q	.065	4-5	4-22
Utd DominionRlty	Q	.24	4-12	4-30
INITIAL				
Area Bancshrs	-	.035	3-22	4-1
First Bell Bncp	-	.03	3-29	4-26
WrthngtonFoods n	-	.03	3-29	4-26
REGULAR				
ABM Indust	Q	.175	4-15	5-3
AT&T Corp	Q	.33	3-29	5-1
Amer Biltrite	Q	.10	3-22	4-8
Ameritech	Q	.53	3-29	5-1
Call Realty	Q	.425	4-3	4-19
Central Newsp A	Q	.17	3-29	4-10
Countrywd Credit	Q	.08	4-2	4-16
Frankford Fst	Q	.09	3-29	4-15
Grove Real Est	Q	.2275	3-26	4-16
Malan Realty	Q	.425	3-29	4-19
Masco Corp	Q	.19	4-5	5-6
Measurex Corp	Q	.11	4-3	4-17
Park Electro	Q	.08	4-16	5-14
Peoples Hold	Q	.2625	3-22	4-1
Pulitzer Publish	Q	.15	4-8	5-1
Realty Inco	M	.155	4-1	4-15
Royale Inv	Q	.125	3-29	4-15
St Joseph LtPwr	Q	.47	5-3	5-17
Super Food Svc	Q	.10	5-23	6-15
Templeton GlbGv	M	.05	3-29	4-15
United NH Bncp	Q	.27	4-15	5-1
Ziegler Co	Q	.13	4-5	4-15

a-annual; g-payable in Canadian funds; m-monthly; q-quarterly; s-semi-annual

Stock Tables Explained

Sales figures are unofficial. Yearly highs and lows reflect the previous 52 weeks plus the current week, but not the latest trading day. Where a split or stock dividend amounting to 25 percent or more has been paid, the years high-low range and dividend are shown for the new stocks only. Unless otherwise noted, rates of dividends are annual disbursements based on the latest declaration.
a - dividend also extra (s). b - annual rate of dividend plus stock dividend. c - liquidating dividend. cld - called. d - new yearly low. e - dividend declared or paid in preceding 12 months. g - dividend in Canadian funds, subject to 15% non-residence tax. i - dividend declared after split-up or stock dividend. j - dividend paid this year, omitted, deferred, or no action taken at latest dividend meeting. k - dividend declared or paid this year, an accumulative issue with dividends in arrears. n - new issue in the past 52 weeks. The high-low range begins with the start of trading. nd - next day delivery. P/E - price-earnings ratio. r - dividend declared or paid in preceding 12 months, plus stock dividend. s - stock split. Dividend begins with date of split. sls - sales. t - dividend paid in stock in preceding 12 months, estimated cash value on ex-dividend or ex-distribution date. u - new yearly high. v - trading halted. vi - in bankruptcy or receivership or being reorganized under the Bankruptcy Act, or securities assumed by such companies. wd - when distributed. wi - when issued/ ww - with warrants. x - ex-dividend or ex-rights. xdis - ex-distribution. xw - without warrants. y- ex-dividend and sales in full. yld - yield. z - sales in full.

INTERNATIONAL FUTURES

March 20, 1996

Grains

CORN (CBOT) 5,000 bu minimum- dollars per bushel

	High	Low	Close	Chge	OpInt
Mar 96	4.01	3.93½	3.96½	—0.01¾	2,082
May 96	3.87¾	3.83¾	3.87	+0.01½	193,150
Jul 96	3.77	3.71½	3.76¼	+0.02¼	127,070
Sep 96	3.26½	3.22¼	3.26	+0.01¾	37,607
Dec 96	3.14½	3.10¼	3.13¾	+0.02	90,584

Est. sales N.A. Tue's. sales 79,488
Tue's open int 462,843 off 68

SOYBEAN MEAL (CBOT) 100 tons- dollars per ton

	High	Low	Close	Chge	OpInt
Mar 96	220.80	219.20	219.20	—1.30	911
May 96	225.80	222.30	225.60	+1.20	40,642
Jul 96	228.80	226.50	228.60	+0.70	28,190
Aug 96	229.30	227.40	229.30	+0.30	5,413
Sep 96	229.50	227.80	229.50	+0.50	3,453
Oct 96	228.80	226.80	228.80	—0.80	3,067

Est. sales N.A. Tue's. sales 23,558
Tue's open int 90,618 up 2585

SOYBEAN OIL (CBOT) 60,000 lbs- dollars per 100 lbs.

	High	Low	Close	Chge	OpInt
Mar 96	24.10	24.01	24.08	—0.04	383
May 96	24.48	24.28	24.35	+0.02	33,949
Jul 96	24.84	24.64	24.73	+0.03	26,363
Aug 96	25.00	24.84	24.91	+0.01	6,489
Sep 96	25.18	25.05	25.09	+0.01	4,504
Oct 96	25.33	25.18	25.25	+0.02	2,934

Est. sales N.A. Tue's. sales 12,724
Tue's open int 84,088 up 698

SOYBEANS (CBOT) 5,000 bu minimum- dollars per bushel

	High	Low	Close	Chge	OpInt
Mar 96	7.08	7.05¾	7.08	+0.01¼	714
May 96	7.20	7.13½	7.18¼	+0.03½	69,898
Jul 96	7.28	7.21½	7.27	+0.03½	52,093
Aug 96	7.28½	7.23	7.27¼	+0.03	7,805
Sep 96	7.22	7.18	7.22	+0.03	3,647

Est. sales N.A. Tue's. sales 55,801
Tue's open int 195,453 up 2293

WHEAT (CBOT) 5,000 bu minimum- dollars per bushel

	High	Low	Close	Chge	OpInt
Mar 96	7.50	5.06½	6.40	+1.32	990
May 96	4.86	4.66	4.81	+0.11¼	26,408
Jul 96	4.50½	4.39¼	4.50	+0.06¼	43,477
Sep 96	4.52¾	4.42¾	4.52¼	+0.04½	8,275

Est. sales N.A. Tue's. sales 22,533
Tue's open int 86,131 off 10356

Livestock

CATTLE (CMER) 40,000 lbs.- cents per lb.

	High	Low	Close	Chge	OpInt
Apr 96	65.00	64.50	64.62	—0.35	26,159
Jun 96	64.30	63.80	63.90	—0.37	29,434
Aug 96	63.20	62.87	63.07	—0.05	15,229
Oct 96	63.95	63.70	63.92	—0.03	10,846
Dec 96	62.87	62.45	62.82	+0.15	6,003
Feb 97	62.85	62.55	62.85	+0.23	3,211

Est. sales 11,475 Tue's. sales 11,530
Tue's open int 91,118 up 447

FEEDER CATTLE (CMER) 50,000 lbs.- cents per lb.

	High	Low	Close	Chge	OpInt
Mar 96	56.92	56.70	56.75	—0.12	3,454
Apr 96	58.28	57.88	57.90	—0.07	3,471
May 96	59.17	58.77	58.85	—0.20	5,050
Aug 96	59.65	59.26	59.32	—0.13	6,063
Sep 96	59.67	59.47	59.55	+0.05	1,191
Oct 96	59.95	59.70	59.72	+0.07	1,527

Est. sales 2,716 Tue's. sales 2,787
Tue's open int 22,481 off 142

HOGS-Live(2/97 Lean) (CMER) 40,000 lbs.- cents per lb.

	High	Low	Close	Chge	OpInt
Apr 96	49.70	49.05	49.62	—0.85	11,132
Jun 96	54.00	53.40	53.77	—0.10	14,643
Jul 96	52.80	51.55	51.92	+0.20	3,471
Aug 96	49.32	49.00	49.17	+0.10	4,451
Oct 96	45.65	45.40	45.65	+0.08	2,972
Dec 96	46.80	46.45	46.70	+0.20	1,601

Est. sales 6,858 Tue's. sales 7,171
Tue's open int 38,889 up 199

PORK BELLIES (CMER) 40,000 lbs.- cents per lb.

	High	Low	Close	Chge	OpInt
Mar 96	69.00	67.40	68.90		337
May 96	68.25	66.95	67.75	+0.13	6,781
Jul 96	65.15	64.05	64.82	+0.27	2,486
Aug 96	61.90	60.75	61.25	+0.48	774
Feb 97	61.55	61.15	61.37	+0.42	116
Mar 97			60.80	—0.50	8

Est. sales 2,326 Tue's. sales 2,847
Tue's open int 10,416 up 201

Food

COCOA (NCSE) 10 metric tons- $ per ton

	High	Low	Close	Chge	OpInt
May 96	1237	1218	1220	—17	34,866
Jul 96	1263	1240	1246	—16	22,416
Sep 96	1294	1269	1270	—14	13,258
Dec 96	1319	1306	1302	—16	13,776
Mar 97	1335	1335	1331	—16	7,696

Est. sales 5,450 Tue's. sales 7,734
Tue's open int 98,447 up 195

COFFEE C (NCSE) 37,500 lbs.- cents per lb.

	High	Low	Close	Chge	OpInt
May 96	119.65	117.80	117.70	—1.35	16,580
Jul 96	118.20	116.40	116.50	—1.10	5,470
Sep 96	116.50	115.50	115.55	—1.05	3,660
Dec 96	115.75	114.50	114.65	—0.80	1,787

Est. sales 5,992 Tue's. sales 5,846
Tue's open int 28,125 up 142

SUGAR-WORLD 11 (NCSE) 112,000 lbs.- cents per lb.

	High	Low	Close	Chge	OpInt
May 96	12.49	12.32	12.48	+0.02	64,866
Jul 96	11.77	11.55	11.74	+0.05	39,218
Oct 96	10.70	10.45	10.64	—0.05	27,675
Mar 97	10.41	10.32	10.34	—0.07	15,729

Est. sales 13,694 Tue's. sales 17,779
Tue's open int 154,213 up 1467

ORANGE JUICE (NCTN) 15,000 lbs.- cents per lb.

	High	Low	Close	Chge	OpInt
May 96	132.70	130.90	131.65	—0.15	16,846
Jul 96	130.80	130.00	130.45	—0.35	4,329
Sep 96	128.50	128.00	128.15	—0.10	2,214
Nov 96			124.65	—0.25	884

Est. sales N.A. Tue's. sales 3,459
Tue's open int 27,197 up 2

Metals

GOLD (NCMX) 100 troy oz.- dollars per troy oz.

	High	Low	Close	Chge	OpInt
Mar 96			396.00	+0.60	2
Apr 96	396.80	395.10	396.50	+0.50	65,064
May 96	399.40	399.40	397.80	+0.50	2
Jun 96	399.70	398.10	399.40	+0.40	53,791
Aug 96	401.60	401.00	402.00	+0.40	12,695
Oct 96	405.00	403.70	404.50	+0.30	5,189
Dec 96	407.00	406.00	407.10	+0.30	15,452
Feb 97			409.70	+0.70	4,810

Est. sales N.A. Tue's. sales 22,693
Tue's open int 197,708 off 1014

HI GRADE COPPER (NCMX) 25,000 lbs.- cents per lb.

	High	Low	Close	Chge	OpInt
Mar 96	118.50	116.70	117.90	+0.20	2,374
Apr 96	117.60	116.70	117.40	+0.05	2,739
May 96	117.50	115.80	117.10	+0.25	20,393
Jun 96	115.85	115.30	115.85	+0.35	865
Jul 96	115.30	114.00	115.00	+0.50	4,952
Aug 96			114.30	+0.65	439
Sep 96	113.50	112.50	113.50	+0.80	2,855
Oct 96			112.65	+0.85	434
Nov 96	111.50	111.50	111.85	+0.85	316

Est. sales N.A. Tue's. sales 7,900
Tue's open int 42,791 up 217

SILVER (NCMX) 5,000 troy oz.- cents per troy oz.

	High	Low	Close	Chge	OpInt
Mar 96	554.0	546.0	555.4	+5.0	89
Apr 96			556.8	+4.9	2
May 96	559.5	550.0	558.7	+4.7	52,594
Jul 96	564.0	555.0	563.2	+4.9	14,002
Sep 96	568.8	560.0	567.7	+4.9	11,046
Dec 96	576.0	568.0	574.8	+4.9	7,499
Jan 97			577.8	+4.9	3
Mar 97	581.8	574.0	582.3	+4.9	3,163

Est. sales N.A. Tue's. sales 6,592
Tue's open int 91,666 off 46

PLATINUM (NMER) 50 troy oz.- dollars per troy oz.

	High	Low	Close	Chge	OpInt
Apr 96	413.90	412.10	413.50	—0.50	11,070
Jul 96	417.00	415.00	416.30	+0.30	8,785
Oct 96	418.50	418.50	419.00	+0.50	1,935
Jan 97			421.80	+0.50	742
Apr 97			424.50	—0.50	360

Est. sales N.A. Tue's. sales 7,146
Tue's open int 22,912 up 129

LONDON METALS (LME) Dollars per metric ton

	Close		Previous	
Aluminum (High Grade)				
Spot	1623.00	1624.00	1604.00	1605.00
Forward	1655.00	1656.00	1636.00	1637.00
Copper Cathodes (High Grade)				
Spot	2542.00	2544.00	2544½	2546½
Forward	2535.00	2536.00	2537.00	2538.00
Lead				
Spot	912.00	914.00	924.00	925.00
Forward	817.00	811½	828.00	829.00
Nickel				
Spot	8240.00	8250.00	8120.00	8130.00
Forward	8345.00	8348.00	8220.00	8230.00
Tin				
Spot	6370.00	6380.00	6245.00	6255.00
Forward	6400.00	6405.00	6285.00	6290.00
Zinc (Special High Grade)				
Spot	1070½	1071½	1066½	1067½
Forward	1094.00	1095.00	1090.00	1091.00

Financial

US T. BILLS (CMER) $1 million- pts of 100 pct.

	High	Low	Close	Chge	OpInt
Mar 96	95.02	95.00	95.00		2,505
Jun 96	95.08	94.98	95.07	—0.06	9,450
Sep 96	94.92	94.78	94.91	—0.10	3,090
Dec 96			94.72	+0.11	73

Est. sales N.A. Tue's. sales 1,690
Tue's open int 15,318 up 98

5 YR. TREASURY (CBOT) $100,000 prin- pts & 32nds of 100 pct

	High	Low	Close	Chge	OpInt
Mar 96	107-17	106-27	107-105	+ 09	7,204
Jun 96	107-03	106-11	107-025	+ 15	196,969
Sep 96	106-275	106-21	106-275	+ 15	8,347

Est. sales N.A. Tue's. sales 41,423
Tue's open int 212,520 up 1363

10 YR. TREASURY (CBOT) $100,000 prin- pts & 32nds of 100 pct

	High	Low	Close	Chge	OpInt
Mar 96	109-28	108-28	109-16	- 06	16,410
Jun 96	109-06	108-01	109-04	- 17	262,866
Sep 96	108-19	108-19	108-29	+ 18	13,822

Est. sales N.A. Tue's. sales 91,018
Tue's open int 293,130 up 187

US TREASURY BONDS (CBOT) (8 pct-$100,000-pts & 32nds of 100 pct)

	High	Low	Close	Chge	OpInt
Mar 96	112-18	111-07	111-27	- 07	22,378
Jun 96	112-02	110-22	111-28	+ 24	358,203
Sep 96	111-15	110-05	111-12	+ 24	17,092
Dec 96	110-28	110-10	110-28	+ 24	2,783

Est. sales N.A. Tue's. sales 337,008
Tue's open int 401,410 up 3992

LONG GILT (LIFFE) £50,000 - pts & 32nds of 100 pct

	High	Low	Close	Chge	OpInt
Mar96	106-08	105-12	106-08	+ 0-21	4,409
Jun96	105-15	104-12	105-10	+ 0-19	113,860
Sep96	N.T.	N.T.	104-07	+ 0-19	0

Est. sales: 66,641. Prev. sales: 38,861
Prev. open int.: 118,548 off 341

GERMAN GOVERNMENT BUND (LIFFE) DM250,000 - pts of 100 pct

	High	Low	Close	Chge	OpInt
Jun96	95.94	94.81	95.80	+ 0.50	227,653
Sep96	94.41	94.20	94.95	+ 0.50	4,102

Est. sales: 225,032. Prev. sales: 192,406
Prev. open int.: 231,755 up 1,815

ITALIAN GOVERNMENT BOND (LIFFE) ITL 200 million - pts of 100 pct

	High	Low	Close	Chge	OpInt
Jun96	109.26	108.20	109.15	+ 0.70	52,636
Sep96	107.80	107.80	108.60	+ 0.70	0

Est. sales: 39,064. Prev. sales: 34,342
Prev. open int.: 52,636 up 1,937

10-YEAR FRENCH GOV. BONDS (MATIF) FF500,000 - pts of 100 pct

	High	Low	Close	Chge
Jun 96	120.98	120.28	120.96	+ 0.20
Sep 96	119.52	119.18	119.74	+ 0.18
Dec 97	118.26	118.02	118.58	+ 0.18

Est. volume: 152,961. Open int.: 142,060.

EURODOLLARS (CMER) $1 million-pts of 100 pct.

	High	Low	Close	Chge	OpInt
Apr 96	94.600	94.530	94.590	+ 30	19,353
May 96	94.600	94.530	94.580	+ 40	4,403
Jun 96	94.610	94.490	94.580	- 70	434,144
Sep 96	94.470	94.290	94.450	+ 120	330,362
Dec 96	94.260	94.030	94.230	- 140	310,057
Mar 97	94.110	93.850	94.070	+ 140	211,290
Jun 97	94.000	93.760	93.960	- 140	180,624
Sep 97	93.880	93.650	93.840	+ 120	154,667

Est. sales N.A. Tue's. sales 446,924
Tue's open int 2,350,968 off 230618

BRITISH POUND (CMER) 62,500 pounds, $ per pound

	High	Low	Close	Chge	OpInt
Jun 96	1.5380	1.5310	1.5374	+ 62	34,321
Sep 96	1.5370	1.5310	1.5354	+ 62	36
Dec 96			1.5334	+ 62	32

Est. sales N.A. Tue's. sales 6,617
Tue's open int 59,995 off 77

CANADIAN DOLLAR (CMER) 100,000 dollars, $ per Cdn. dlr

	High	Low	Close	Chge	OpInt
Jun 96	.7366	.7355	.7356	—1	34,983
Sep 96	.7364	.7358	.7357	—1	1,226
Dec 96	.7365	.7360	.7357	—1	1,485
Mar 97	.7364	.7363	.7357	—1	227

Est. sales N.A. Tue's. sales 7,384
Tue's open int 47,150 up 3039

GERMAN MARK (CMER) 125,000 marks, $ per mark

	High	Low	Close	Chge	OpInt
Jun 96	.6828	.6797	.6819	+ 2	53,601
Sep 96	.6860	.6836	.6856	+ 2	2,066
Dec 96	.6891	.6875	.6893	+ 2	189
Mar 97			.6928	+ 2	8

Est. sales N.A. Tue's. sales 15,408
Tue's open int 81,499 off 598

JAPANESE YEN (CMER) 12.5 million yen, $ per 100 yen

	High	Low	Close	Chge	OpInt
Jun 96	.009541	.009483	.009514	—14	56,835
Sep 96	.009640	.009600	.009629	—16	1,170
Dec 96			.009744	—19	820

Est. sales N.A. Tue's. sales 12,467
Tue's open int 73,885 up 1558

SWISS FRANC (CMER) 125,000 francs, $ per franc

	High	Low	Close	Chge	OpInt
Jun 96	.8480	.8411	.8463	—13	26,344
Sep 96	.8545	.8519	.8539	—13	484
Dec 96			.8614	—13	502

Est. sales N.A. Tue's. sales 6,938
Tue's open int 40,719 up 405

3-MONTH STERLING (LIFFE) £500,000 - pts of 100 pct

	High	Low	Close	Chge	OpInt
Mar96	93.90	93.87	93.88	+ 0.01	51,157
Jun96	93.95	93.88	93.95	+ 0.02	75,887
Sep96	93.77	93.65	93.75	+ 0.04	57,472
Dec96	93.44	93.30	93.43	+ 0.04	48,401
Mar97	93.03	92.89	93.02	+ 0.04	33,147
Jun97	92.67	92.56	92.67	+ 0.04	31,097
Sep97	92.40	92.26	92.40	+ 0.05	22,509
Dec97	92.19	92.05	92.18	+ 0.05	14,219
Mar98	92.02	91.90	92.01	+ 0.04	9,270
Jun98	91.83	91.77	91.87	+ 0.06	7,090
Sep98	91.70	91.66	91.73	+ 0.05	5,871
Dec98	91.67	91.57	91.66	+ 0.05	7,956

Est. sales: 77,723. Prev. sales: 33,478
Prev. open int.: 364,076 off 369

3-MONTH EUROMARK (LIFFE) DM1 million - pts of 100 pct

	High	Low	Close	Chge	OpInt
Jun96	96.73	96.66	96.72	+ 0.01	237,789
Sep96	96.58	96.42	96.57	+ 0.05	232,412
Dec96	96.20	96.12	96.17	+ 0.06	175,840
Mar97	95.96	95.75	95.92	+ 0.09	116,152
Jun97	95.57	95.38	95.55	+ 0.09	97,573
Sep97	95.21	95.04	95.20	+ 0.10	85,081
Dec97	94.85	94.68	94.83	+ 0.10	51,432
Mar98	94.53	94.37	94.52	+ 0.11	25,683
Jun98	94.23	94.09	94.23	+ 0.10	20,381
Sep98	93.91	93.81	93.94	+ 0.09	15,187
Dec98	93.63	93.56	93.65	+ 0.09	12,668
Mar99	93.37	93.28	93.40	+ 0.09	537

Est. sales: 194,656. Prev. sales: 105,869
Prev. open int.: 1,070,755 up 7,123

3-MONTH EUROLIRA (LIFFE) ITL 1 million - pts of 100 pct

	High	Low	Close	Chge	OpInt
Jun96	90.77	90.65	90.76	+ 0.04	40,369
Sep96	91.08	90.98	91.07	+ 0.06	19,593
Dec96	91.10	91.00	91.09	+ 0.06	15,275
Mar97	90.98	90.90	90.98	+ 0.06	6,686
Jun97	90.85	90.80	90.85	+ 0.04	3,282
Sep97	90.75	90.70	90.75	+ 0.04	1,430

Est. sales: 19,436. Prev. sales: 18,815
Prev. open int.: 86,635 up 2,837

3-MONTH PIBOR (MATIF) FF5 million - pts of 100 pct

	High	Low	Close	Chge
Jun 96	95.63	95.57	95.61	Unch.
Sep 96	95.51	95.44	95.50	+ 0.01
Dec 96	95.35	95.27	95.35	+ 0.01
Mar 97	95.13	95.05	95.12	Unch.
Jun 97	94.86	94.80	94.85	Unch.
Sep 97	94.60	94.55	94.59	Unch.
Dec 97	94.38	94.55	94.38	Unch.
Mar 98	94.20	94.34	94.19	+ 0.01

Est. volume: 52,493. Open int.: 163,587.

Industrials

COTTON 2 (NCTN) 50,000 lbs.- cents per lb.

	High	Low	Close	Chge	OpInt
May 96	85.70	83.95	85.65	+1.75	20,522
Jul 96	86.30	84.80	86.16	+1.35	12,031
Oct 96	81.80	80.80	81.80	+1.15	2,504
Dec 96	80.09	79.55	79.99	+0.44	18,056
Mar 97	80.80	80.40	80.48	+0.33	1,939
May 97			81.35	+0.30	840

Est. sales N.A. Tue's. sales 6,315
Tue's open int 57,912 up 492

HEATING OIL (NMER) 42,000 gal- cents per gal

	High	Low	Close	Chge	OpInt
Apr 96	65.60	62.25	63.00	—0.74	22,294
May 96	57.20	54.70	55.50	+0.54	18,455
Jun 96	53.30	51.10	51.50	—0.35	12,179
Jul 96	51.70	50.60	50.70	—0.35	8,485
Aug 96	52.00	50.80	50.80	—0.35	7,909
Sep 96	51.80	51.25	51.45	—0.25	3,024
Oct 96	52.30	51.90	51.90	—0.30	2,539
Nov 96	53.25	52.20	52.20	—0.50	3,421
Dec 96	53.60	52.60	52.65	—0.55	8,093
Jan 97	53.85	52.95	53.00	—0.45	3,426

Est. sales N.A. Tue's. sales 30,930
Tue's open int 91,874 up 497

LIGHT SWEET CRUDE (NMER) 1,000 bbl.- dollars per bbl.

	High	Low	Close	Chge	OpInt
Mar 96	25.60	22.20	22.50	—1.84	27,322
May 96	21.55	20.40	20.80	—0.03	96,537
Jun 96	20.10	19.35	19.55	—0.03	66,109
Jul 96	19.10	18.62	18.75	—0.02	45,168
Aug 96	18.64	18.34	18.40	+0.06	26,400
Sep 96	18.38	18.05	18.15	+0.10	22,095
Oct 96	18.10	17.85	17.98	+0.13	14,386
Nov 96	17.90	17.70	17.85	+0.17	14,764
Dec 96	17.83	17.57	17.65	+0.11	31,343
Jan 97	17.78	17.58	17.60	+0.15	19,872
Feb 97	17.60	17.51	17.55	+0.19	8,136
Jun 97	17.43	17.21	17.25	+0.18	12,685
Dec 97	17.40	17.28	17.28	+0.21	15,018

Est. sales N.A. Tue's. sales 149,215
Tue's open int 435,483 off 4899

NATURAL GAS (NMER) 10,000 mm btu's, $ per mm btu

	High	Low	Close	Chge	OpInt
Apr 96	2.610	2.485	2.565	+42	25,855
May 96	2.390	2.310	2.345	+15	27,293
Jun 96	2.210	2.170	2.175	—4	19,011
Jul 96	2.115	2.070	2.080	+4	15,086
Aug 96	2.060	2.035	2.035	—9	14,299
Sep 96	2.010	1.990	1.990	—9	11,430
Oct 96	2.000	1.985	1.990	+12	9,250
Nov 96	2.070	2.055	2.055	—7	6,122
Dec 96	2.190	2.175	2.180	+22	9,646
Jan 97	2.200	2.190	2.200	—24	4,033
Feb 97	2.150	2.125	2.150	+34	3,285

Est. sales N.A. Tue's. sales 60,051
Tue's open int 164,365 up 4189

UNLEADED GASOLINE (NMER) 42,000 gal- cents per gal

	High	Low	Close	Chge	OpInt
Apr 96	66.45	63.70	64.38	—0.77	25,146
May 96	65.30	62.85	63.65	—0.77	26,783
Jun 96	63.10	61.10	61.80	—0.10	9,121
Jul 96	60.60	59.05	59.30	—0.25	7,242
Aug 96	58.20	57.10	57.05	—0.40	4,049
Sep 96	56.20	55.00	54.95	—0.50	1,410

Est. sales N.A. Tue's. sales 28,402
Tue's open int 74,829 up 799

GASOIL (IPE) U.S. dollars per metric ton - lots of 100 tons

	High	Low	Close	Chge	OpInt
Apr 96	188.00	178.50	184.25	+7.25	22,006
May 96	171.50	166.75	168.75	+3.00	11,223
Jun 96	162.75	160.00	161.00	+1.00	9,143
July 96	158.25	156.75	156.75	—0.25	4,928
Aug 96	157.00	156.00	156.50	+0.25	4,050
Sep 96	157.00	156.00	156.50	+0.25	1,754
Oct 96	157.75	156.50	157.00	—0.75	1,395
Nov 96	N.T.	N.T.	157.50	—1.00	679
Dec 96	159.50	157.75	158.00	—0.75	5,785

Est. sales: 30,343. Open int.: 61,522 up 1,655.

BRENT OIL (IPE) U.S. dollars per barrel - lots of 1,000 barrels

	High	Low	Close	Chge	OpInt
May 96	19.28	18.51	18.68	+0.07	79,289
June 96	18.24	17.65	17.75	—0.01	33,029
July 96	17.50	17.02	17.05	Unch.	38,588
Aug 96	17.10	16.74	16.70	—0.05	11,852
Sep 96	16.83	16.53	16.47	—0.08	12,275
Oct 96	16.60	16.60	16.29	—0.10	3,296
Nov 96	16.54	16.44	16.13	—0.13	2,553
Dec 96	16.43	16.25	16.00	—0.14	9,164
Jan 97	16.34	16.15	15.89	—0.15	9,335
Feb 97	N.T.	N.T.	15.80	—0.16	3,517
Mar 97	N.T.	N.T.	15.72	—0.17	387

Est. sales: 30,343. Open int.: 203,285 up 10,519

Stock Indexes

S&P COMP. INDEX (CMER) 500 x index

	High	Low	Close	Chge	OpInt
Jun 96	660.50	650.90	655.50	—1.80	180,456
Sep 96	666.75	656.80	661.50	—1.55	4,516
Dec 96	671.30	662.20	671.30	—2.50	2,385

Est. sales N.A. Tue's. sales 70,719
Tue's open int 187,367 off 1962

FTSE 100 (LIFFE) £25 per index point

	High	Low	Close	Chge	OpInt
Jun96	3705.0	3672.0	3685.0	— 3.0	61,425
Sep96	N.T	N.T	3701.0	— 3.0	2,340

Est. sales: 10,559. Prev. sales: 16,796
Prev. open int.: 63,765 off 1,426

CAC 40 (MATIF) FF200 per index point

	High	Low	Close	Chge
Apr 96	1981.0	1963.0	1976.0	+ 1.00
May 96	1960.0	1960.0	1979.0	+ 0.50
Jun 96	1967.0	1967.0	1971.0	+ 1.00
Sep 96	1956.0	1942.0	1953.5	+ 1.00
Dec 96	1954.0	1954.0	1965.0	+ 1.00

Est. volume: 17,040. Open int.: 57,902.

Commodity Indexes

	Close	Previous
Moody's	1,500.10	1,497.70
Reuters	2,136.70	2,140.70
D.J. Futures	149.96	149.60
CRB	250.12	249.90

NYSE

Wednesday's 4 p.m. Close

Nationwide prices, not reflecting late trades elsewhere.
The Associated Press.

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Continued on Page 16

ASIA/PACIFIC

Profit Plummets At Debt-Ridden Hopewell Holdings

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

HONG KONG — Hopewell Holdings Ltd. said Wednesday that its net profit for the half-year ended Dec. 31 fell 63 percent, to 466.4 million Hong Kong dollars ($60.3 million).

The investment holding company said sales fell 14 percent, to 1.02 billion dollars. Earnings per share were 11 cents, compared with 29 cents in the like period in 1994, and the company declared an interim dividend of 3 cents a share, down from 10 cents.

Net profit included a special gain of 195 million dollars as the Hong Kong government reversed its decision on taxation of gains from a property sale and returned the money Hopewell had paid. Analysts had forecast profit for the half-year of around 500 million dollars.

The company's 1994 net profit included a special gain of 964 million dollars from the partial disposal of an interest in a joint venture.

Hopewell, which has interests in property investment and development, construction, power-station operation, hotels and real-estate management, is heavily invested in infrastructure projects throughout Asia. Its major projects include the construction of an elevated rail system in Bangkok and a superhighway linking the Chinese cities of Guangzhou, Shenzhen and Zhubai. Both projects have been reported to be behind schedule and running well above their original cost estimates.

Recently, the company and its chairman, the entrepreneur Gordon Wu, have come under fire for holding excessive corporate debt, estimated at more than 23 billion dollars.

Other analysts have said the future security of the company will depend more on the ability of Mr. Wu to raise cash than on the profitability of its operations.

Hopewell generates much of its revenue by selling stakes in its infrastructure projects. But during the first half of its financial year, the company did not make any such sales.

Some analysts said that Hopewell, which has interests in China, Thailand and the Philippines, needed to spin off some of its projects to generate earnings during the second half of the year. The company already has said it plans to sell shares in a new concern called Consolidated Real Estate & Transportation Asia Ltd., or Creata, which is to run Hopewell's transportation projects in China and Thailand.

"We have formed the company; we are now negotiating with investors," said Robert Nien, a Hopewell director. "We are trying to get the highest value above our costs."

Mr. Nien said the Shenzhen-Guangzhou toll road, which is already in use, was bringing in revenue of about 60 million yuan ($7.1 million) a month. He said 70,000 cars drove on it in one day in February, compared with a 1995 average of 50,000 cars a day.

He said the road had the potential to carry between 200,000 and 300,000 cars a day.

Hopewell Holdings shares closed unchanged at 4.93 dollars. *(AFP, AFX, Bloomberg, Knight-Ridder)*

Hung Kai Posts Higher 1st-Half Net

Knight-Ridder

HONG KONG — Sun Hung Kai Properties Ltd. said Wednesday its net profit for the half-year ended Dec. 31 was 5.15 billion Hong Kong dollars ($666.1 million), up 5 percent from the like period in the previous year.

The results were below analysts' expectations of between 5.20 billion dollars and 5.57 billion dollars.

Revenue at the real-estate concern was up 14 percent, at 12.64 billion dollars, while earnings per share were 2.22 dollars, compared with 2.11 dollars in 1994. Sun Hung Kai said it would pay an interim dividend of 60 cents a share, compared with 58 cents a share the previous year.

Property sales fell in the half to 1.97 billion dollars from 3.47 billion. Walter Kwok Ping-sheung, the company's chairman, said he was "optimistic" about long-term prospects.

Riding Out China's Storm

Taiwan Executives in Shanghai Live on Edge

By Seth Faison
New York Times Service

SHANGHAI — Like many of the other Taiwan natives who live and work in this city, Chiang Yu-min likes to relax by leaving his steel factory on the outskirts of town to meet friends for a meal at one of the fashionable restaurants that cater to *tai shang*, as they are known in mainland China.

But it is hard for Mr. Chiang to relax when all his friends are talking about the possibility of war.

"We're nervous every day, so we're used to it," he said, smiling wearily. "None of us really expects war to break out, but it's on our minds all the time."

With Taiwan and China closer to military conflict than they have been in decades, investors from Taiwan are on edge here, torn by two conflicting actions: China's efforts to encourage investment at the same time that it test-fires missiles near Taiwan ahead of the presidential election to be held there on Saturday.

More than 100,000 business executives from Taiwan are believed to be in China. They have brought huge investments, an estimated $25 billion over the past decade, more than has come from the United States and a total second only to that from Hong Kong, demonstrating China's economic stake in avoiding a serious showdown over Taiwan.

Most Taiwan executives here prefer to focus on the positive, saying they cannot imagine that any blood will be spilled and that it would be unwise to discuss sensitive political issues directly.

But talk of war has highlighted the uncertain status of Taiwan businessmen on the mainland.

In recent years, China's government has welcomed executives from Taiwan not just for their investments but also for the personal and financial ties that Chinese leaders believe will help keep Taiwan, which they consider a renegade province, from becoming too independent.

"Although relations are getting tense and complicated, we want to promote more trade and investment from Taiwan," said Zhang Zhichun, director of the Taiwan Affairs Office in Shanghai. "New investors may hesitate, but the ones already here can see what a good environment it is."

Most of the executives here seem to doubt that armed conflict will occur, but some express fear that they could lose their stake in the mainland.

"All that has been achieved over the last five to 10 years could disappear," said Kent Liu, chairman and general manager of Shanghai Taylor Food Co., which makes ice cream. "If there were a war, the Taiwan economy would collapse, and so would the economy in the coastal areas of China."

Executives from Taiwan began entering the Chinese market 10 years ago and, by emphasizing their common language and ignoring political history, became savvy and aggressive investors.

But today, with politics threatening to undercut China's prosperity, the executives occupy a somewhat precarious position: They are insiders, but they do not quite belong.

"The government has assured us they will protect our rights," said Yang Ta-cheng, chairman of the Taiwanese Businessmen's Association in Shanghai. "I believe them. Our interests are deeply intertwined."

Yet Mr. Yang described how, despite having the same language and cultural upbringing as mainlanders, he felt like a complete outsider when he arrived here in 1992.

Chinese officials estimate that there are more than 30,000 companies in China with Taiwan investors, and though no one counts exactly how many Taiwanese live here, Mr. Yang suggested that there could be more than 100,000.

"Everyone wants to stay unified, so why are we even talking about violence?" Mr. Yang said. One false move and there could be chaos. This society could come apart."

The tremendous economic growth in Shanghai and other coastal Chinese cities in recent years seems to offer a palpable alternative to such dark thoughts.

Simin Huang, a Taiwan restaurateur whose seventh-floor office sits atop a building with a restaurant of different cuisine on each floor, is also focusing on the upside. His building, for example, is worth five times what he paid for it four years ago.

"Everyone knows there can't possibly be any real problem," Mr. Huang said, reclining comfortably in a deep leather sofa in his spacious office. "There's too much at stake."

If other investors are hesitating to put any fresh money into China, he said, his company is proceeding with plans to open 400 fast-food outlets in Shanghai within two years.

"I am 100 percent confident," Mr. Huang said.

Of all Taiwan investors in China, he guessed, at least 80 percent are making money. "Among those that came early," he said, meaning three or more years ago, "I'd say 100 percent are making money."

Beijing Arbitrators Are World's Busiest

Reuters

SHANGHAI — The Chinese agency that handles business disputes took on more cases involving foreign companies than any other such arbitration body in the world because of the country's poor legal system and ineffective government supervision, a Shanghai newspaper reported Wednesday.

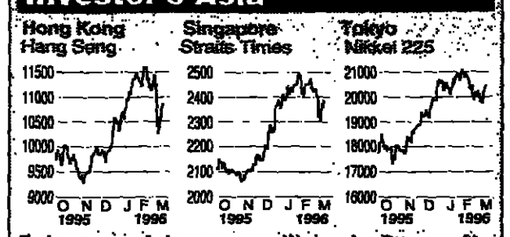
The China International Economic and Trade Arbitration Commission handled 902 disputes involving 45 countries last year, according to the Business News. Zhu Jianlin, the commission's secretary-general, said there were 829 disputes in 1994.

Mr. Zhu said the increase in cases was due to an imperfect legal system in China and to the fact that Chinese companies were more inclined to take their disputes to such tribunals.

"Our legal system is not perfect, and some companies did not have enough knowledge about laws," Mr. Zhu said. "But there is a positive side, that more Chinese companies are now using laws to defend themselves."

"The fundamental reason is that many of our enterprises lack knowledge of international and domestic laws and regulations," the Business News said. "Government departments also lack effective measures to supervise foreign investment in China."

Investor's Asia



Exchange	Index	Wednesday Close	Prev. Close	% Change
Hong Kong	Hang Seng	10,836.60	10,880.50	-0.40
Singapore	Straits Times	2,383.96	2,385.30	-0.06
Sydney	All Ordinaries	2,249.40	2,256.30	-0.31
Tokyo	Nikkei 225	Closed	20,442.60	
Kuala Lumpur	Composite	1,126.90	1,122.53	+0.39
Bangkok	SET	1,287.90	1,284.08	+0.30
Seoul	Composite Index	869.98	860.13	+1.15
Taipei	Stock Market Index	5,040.62	4,950.32	+1.82
Manila	PSE	2,869.82	2,875.42	-0.54
Jakarta	Composite Index	585.98	587.35	-0.23
Wellington	NZSE-40	2,151.29	2,123.20	+1.32
Bombay	Sensitive Index	N.A.	3,256.06	

Source: Telekurs International Herald Tribune

Very briefly:

- **Beijing** plans to build a fiber-optic network connecting 85 percent of the city to a cable radio and television network.
- **China** is expected to produce 84 million metric tons of rolled steel this year, up from 80 million tons in 1995 but not enough to meet forecast demand of 98 million tons, the official Xinhua news agency said.
- **China** will invite bids from foreign companies this year for 26 turbine generators with a capacity of 700 megawatts for the Three Gorges dam project, Xinhua said.
- **News Corp.** plans to form a satellite-broadcasting joint venture with **Letian Corp.** of Beijing, the South China Morning Post reported.
- **Mongolia**'s monthly consumer price inflation rate rose to 6.1 percent in February from 2.7 percent in February 1995 and 3.4 percent in January, mostly because of higher meat prices.
- **Guoco Land Philippines Inc.**, a property developer, is negotiating with **Amari Coastal Bay Development Co.** of Thailand on a possible merger.
- **General Motors Corp.** is expected to choose **Thailand** as the site for its $1 billion main Asian assembly plant, although talks on specific concessions are continuing, according to a report in the Nation newspaper.
- **Westpac Banking Corp.** plans to buy back 95 million shares, or 5 percent of the ordinary shares outstanding, over a one-month period. Westpac shares finished Wednesday at 6.06 Australian dollars ($4.68), down 2 cents.
- **MIM Holdings Ltd.** discovered a gold deposit of 1 million ounces near its Ravenswood operations in north Queensland.

Knight-Ridder, Bloomberg, Reuters, AFX

Seoul's GDP Soared 9% in '95, but Officials See a Smooth Slowdown

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

SEOUL — The gross domestic product grew 9 percent in 1995, driven by surging exports, the Bank of Korea said Wednesday.

At $451.7 billion, South Korea had the 11th-highest domestic output in the world, the central bank said in a preliminary report. GDP, which measures total output of goods and services within a nation's borders, grew 8.6 percent in 1994.

The central bank said growth would slow to about 7.3 percent this year as export expansion and capital investment slowed. But officials said the slowdown, which would come after three years of rapid growth, would be smooth.

The central bank said the economy grew slower than it had expected in the fourth quarter, when GDP rose at an annual rate of 6.8 percent, compared with 9.4 percent a year earlier.

Capital investment rose just 1.5 percent year-on-year in the fourth quarter, compared with a 22 percent rise in the previous quarter.

"It's still unclear what had caused such an unexpected situation, but it's worrisome anyway," said Hahn Jin Soo of Daewoo Research Institute. "A continued slump in capital investments could seriously damage economic growth this year."

Analysts also said demand for bigger wage increases ahead of next month's general elections could trigger a rise in inflation. But many agreed with the central bank's sanguine view.

"The much-feared crash landing of the economy is unlikely," said Kwon Soon Woo, chief macroeconomic researcher at Samsung Economic Research Institute. "The economy is neither growing too fast nor too slow." He forecast growth of 7 percent this year.

Exports rose 24 percent in 1995, the central bank said. The strong yen helped South Korean companies' exports by pushing up prices of competing Japanese products.

(Bloomberg, Reuters)

Australian Growth Eases To a 'Soft Landing' Level

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

SYDNEY — Australia on Wednesday posted gross domestic product growth of 0.5 percent for the fourth quarter and 3.1 percent for all of 1995, figures that economists said indicated a "soft landing" for the economy.

The figures also ruled out any likelihood of a short-term change in official interest rates, analysts said.

"It looks like being one of those perfect soft landings that happens probably once every two or three decades," said Stephen Koukoulas, senior economist for Citibank Australia.

About a year ago, the economy was growing at an annual rate of 6 percent, an unsustainable level that both economists and policymakers feared would lead to runaway inflation.

Anthony Thompson, senior economist at HSBC Australia, said, "The markets have got rid of any hopes of a rate cut, and this reinforces that." Prices of stocks and bonds edged lower. *(Reuters, Bloomberg)*

HEIRS: *High-Profile Leaders Often Leave Struggling Successors*

Continued from Page 11

instance, the Rev. Edward A. Malloy was associate provost for five years before he succeeded the Rev. Theodore M. Hesburgh, the 35-year incumbent, as president in 1987.

"I was encouraged to use that time to effectively prepare myself as much as I could," Father Malloy said. Father Hesburgh also took a yearlong cross-country trip after he stepped down, making the first months easier. "That was a great gift," Father Malloy said.

The ultimate organizational challenge for new bosses is to make their own mark while retaining aspects of their predecessors' success.

"You want to show a sense of reverence for some of the symbols and values this individual embodied," Mr. Conger said. "You then have to start carving out for yourself a new agenda."

But this balance can easily tip either way. One big problem, Mr. Zaleznik said, "is the uncertainty in the mind of the successor of who he is and what he is and the inability to do symbolic patricide." This hands-off tilt can mean the perpetuation of practices that are no longer working and the failure to strike out in new directions.

Some new bosses discard too much. Jeffrey Sonnenfeld, director of the Center for Leadership and Career Studies at Emory University in Atlanta, advises new executives to "dispense with clichés like new brooms sweeping things."

"To trash Ray Kroc's legacy would be a silly thing to do," he said, referring to the founder of McDonald's Corp. "You can say you'll take 80 percent of the tradition and add your own 20 percent to that, and you're not obliterating it."

That sort of combination was used by Eric Ripert, 30, the successor to Gilbert Le Coze, the founding chef of Le Bernardin, the four-star restaurant in New York City.

Mr. Ripert has replaced much of the restaurant's menu, but he has retained some stalwarts. Each day, he serves one of Mr. Le Coze's signature dishes, and some diners schedule their meals around these old favorites.

"We couldn't say, 'Now we close Le Bernardin and reopen tomorrow completely new,' " Mr. Ripert said. "We wanted to show we could do better — with the same place."

At Notre Dame, Father Malloy serves on several of the same boards Father Hesburgh did but chooses some of his own causes as well. "I didn't want to do exactly what he did," Father Malloy said.

Father Malloy's style also helps distance himself from his predecessor. According to campus legend, admirers used to climb up a fire escape outside the presidential office to catch sight of Father Hesburgh. Father Malloy, who teaches a class, plays basketball with students and lives in a dormitory, presents a slightly less awesome front. The president's office is also very different now, cleared of Father Hesburgh's more than 100 honorary degrees and countless awards.

In the world of big business, Wal-Mart may be the textbook case of judicious preservation and innovation. Mr. Glass has kept many of the motivational habits that made Mr. Walton, who died in 1992, a revered figure, including the company cheer and the practice of posting Wal-Mart's stock price in each store.

Saturday morning get-togethers for managers, a Walton institution, still sometimes combine critiques with talk about college football.

The company also continues to deploy Mr. Walton's image in its dealings with customers. Wal-Mart's discount wholesale stores are called Sam's Clubs, and one private-label Wal-Mart brand is called Sam's American Choice.

At the same time, Mr. Glass, whom analysts credit with building Wal-Mart's successful computer system, has moved forward with initiatives such as Supercenters, which offer groceries as well as discount items.

The company is increasingly international, too, with ventures in Mexico, Canada, Argentina, Brazil and Hong Kong. In those stores, the employees also perform Mr. Walton's cheer — in their own languages.

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Education Week

international education
in the Nordic Countries

monday France · tuesday United States · wednesday Germany Austria · thursday

UNIVERSITIES STRESS PRACTICAL SKILLS

Today's employers seek people with job skills. Training students for the newest industries is paramount.

The Nordic countries boast a phalanx of big corporations with a continual need for staff well-versed in the latest innovations. Schools and universities here have long prided themselves on their ability to nurture such expertise.

Lund University, Sweden's second-oldest university, has a number of programs that harness new technologies to boost students' skills. An innovative student computer program, the first of its type in the country, got under way this academic year with the goal of radically improving computer literacy among both students and teaching staff.

The Center for Using Computers in Education was built to give all students access to the Internet and World Wide Web. The rationale is simple: All students should be familiar with information technology and able to use the tools of modern communication in both their studies and future careers.

"With the help of computers, our students can obtain information and communicate in a way that increases the quality and effectiveness of their studies," says the Lund University vice chancellor, Boel Flodgren.

Focus on the environment

The university is expanding on other fronts, too. A newly opened International Institute for Industrial Environmental Economics is believed to be the world's first academic institute to integrate the economic and technical aspects of industrial production with environmental problem-solving. It offers a master's program that leads to an M.S. in Environmental Management and Policy. The course, taught in English, has already attracted students from across the world.

The Norwegian School of Management in Oslo is another school that has been quick to incorporate the latest techniques into its curriculum. Technology is an integral part of main specialties like its M.S. and MBA programs. The MBA program, for example, has a special module covering information technology management.

Øystein Leirtun, the school's senior student advisor for the MBA program, believes that expertise in new technology is essential for all business students. "Even if you just plan to stay in the valley where you live, you need to be able to handle computers and technology," he says.

At Mälardalen University in the Swedish town of Vasteras, the emphasis is on direct links with industry. The town's biggest employer is the Swedish-Swiss engineering conglomerate Asea Brown Boveri (ABB), which cooperates closely with the university.

"We train people for ABB, and they help us with our research," says Goran Huss of Mälardalen's international department, adding that the collaboration extends to job sharing between ABB and the university. The school's prime strength is engineering, but a host of other subjects are taught, ranging from international marketing to nursing.

Baltic appeal

Scandinavia's proximity to the Baltic states has allowed universities and colleges in the region to develop expertise in East European affairs and East-West trade issues.

Vaasa University in Finland, for example, now runs a course in English called Doing Business in Eastern Europe, with the aim of giving students comprehensive insight into international marketing activities in Eastern Europe. The program includes trips to Petrozavodsk and St. Petersburg, Russia; Tallinn and Tartu, Estonia; and Riga, Latvia. The theme also permeates other courses, such as the international program in finance, which includes instruction on financial markets in Russia.

The Norwegian School of Management established a Center for Baltic Development five years ago, reflecting the rekindling of cross-regional ties following the end of the Cold War. The center has four courses, one of which – the business development program – enables Norwegian businesses to share their experiences and expertise directly with their Baltic counterparts.

Three years ago, the University of Oslo started its Project Baltic, taught mainly in English and designed to boost the exchange of students and faculty between the regions. The programs focus on environment, societal development and parliamentary government.

Viking legacy

Yet much exists beyond the Baltic perspective. The university recently opened a Center for Viking and Medieval Studies offering an M.Phil. in Nordic Viking and Medieval Culture as well as a semester unit in the same subject. Both courses are to start in the spring semester of this year and will be taught in English to attract foreign students.

Sigrid Holterman, director of Oslo University's department of international relations, says the program is unique.

"The Viking era is not only part of Scandinavian culture but also of many other European countries, as the Vikings traveled far and wide," she says. ■

NORDIC STATES SHARE INTERNET

The public and private sectors sponsor learning.

The Scandinavian region is one of the world's highest-density PC-owning areas. Households are buying computers at an incredible rate, and more and more of them are signing up to log on to the Internet.

Not surprisingly, this is having its effect on education. In Sweden, for example, the number of computers used in education has doubled in the past two years, and around 600 schools, or almost 10 percent of the national total, have access to the Internet. Much of this boom in computer investment is funded by the state, but commercial sponsorship is vital, too. One example is the newly opened Monsteras high school, where every pupil and teacher has his or her own laptop, sponsored by Apple and the Swedish telecommunications networker Telia.

The Nordic countries have a history of cooperation on education issues, and in the spring of 1995 the Nordic Council of Ministers set up IDUN (Information Technology and Data Pedagogy in Education), a project aimed at supporting the use of information technology from university level down to first grade. Based in Copenhagen, IDUN has designated distance education as one of its priorities. Scandinavian students abroad are now in many cases able to continue studying in their home language via real-time electronic communication, which has worked effectively for the Swedish School in Brussels.

NORDUnet

Nordic schools and universities have also begun to examine the possibilities provided by a common electronic network. NORDUnet is a limited company whose shareholders include education ministries and university centers from the five Nordic countries. NORDUnet connects national research networks from the five countries: DENet (Denmark), FUNET (Finland), ISnet (Iceland), UNINETT (Norway) and SUNET (Sweden). There is a similar Nordic network, ODIN, for high schools.

Education benefits in several ways from such a network. It can be used as a source of research, for example. NORDUnet also enables students to communicate with one another and compare notes. Students in Sweden, Norway and Denmark have the advantage of similar languages if no material is available in English.

Many schools point out that the biggest problem is educating the teachers. While companies think nothing of sending their employees to courses to learn new procedures, teachers often have to cope by themselves. In addition to being computer-literate, teachers must be familiar with the Internet and other networks to help students get the best out of what is available.

The Internet address for NORDUnet is *info@nordu.net*. The Internet address for IDUN is *idunuv@inet.uni-c.dk*. ■

SCHOOLS CATER TO HIGH-TECH NEEDS

Technology industries need more graduates.

Throughout Scandinavia, companies that base their business on new technology and a high technical standard are currently enjoying a surge in demand. Mobile telephone makers Ericsson in Sweden and Finnish competitors Nokia are just two examples. At the same time, the number of students selecting engineering as their university major remains relatively low – a situation that is forcing schools to find new ways of meeting industry demands.

Toward the end of a recent academic term, the Kungliga Tekniska Hogskolan in Stockholm organized an event at which companies could meet students who were on the point of graduating. The intensity of the meeting surprised some observers as company representatives competed to attract young talent. Only a few years ago, the situation had been quite different, with graduates having to search for jobs.

The heads of many schools and universities are worried about what they suspect is a negative attitude toward scientific education among young people. Seven educational establishments in Sweden have started a campaign in order to attract students to their courses.

"We are trying to show teenagers that technology, and in particular engineering, is the basis of a many-faceted career. It demands as much creativity as anything in the media," says campaign spokesman Kerstin Torsater of the Chalmers University of Technology in the southern Swedish city of Gothenburg (Göteborg). The campaign, which is also backed by universities in Umea, Lulea, Lund, Linkoping and Uppsala, includes career ads shown at cinemas.

Sweden goes international

Chalmers University enjoys an enviable reputation in both Sweden and throughout Europe as a top-class technology university. Founded in 1829 as part of the testament of William Chalmers, who was director of the Swedish East India Company, the university now has some 6,000 students.

Chalmers has always aimed at a high standard of research, and two-thirds of its annual income is spent on research activities, both basic and applied. A considerable amount of the research is environmentally oriented, and the university has built up a solid relationship with many of Sweden's top companies. More and more foreign students are attracted to the International Master's programs that are taught in English.

Stockholm's Kungliga Tekniska Hogskolan (KTH) is also part of the new campaign. Like many similar institutions throughout Scandinavia, the school is stepping up its international activities, both to attract students and to give them the multinational experience that many modern companies demand. KTH has over a hundred students exchanging time at different universities on Inter-University Cooperation Programs, and it is striving to meet the goal set by the European Union program Socrates: offering 10 percent of its students a chance to study abroad.

Intellectual capital

KTH also takes part in TIMES, the Tournament in Management & Engineering Skills, an annual competition involving hundreds of European universities.

KTH won the competition in 1994, and the following year the prize went to the Helsinki University of Technology (HUT). HUT is the largest and oldest university of technology in Finland, and it too has become increasingly international in outlook, with more than 400 foreign students, almost half of them working toward doctorates. The university runs four international programs: international business, architecture, modern technology in the pulp and paper industry, and industrial enterprises of the future.

The Norwegian Institute of Technology at the University of Trondheim has an extensive list of M.S. courses in marine and hydro technology, earth science and metallurgy, taking advantage of its location and Norway's experience in the application of these disciplines. ■

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The CBS offers a wide range af bachelor's, master's and Ph.D.programs in all specialized fields of business economics and management as well as modern languages for specific purposes. An increasing number of courses are international and taught in English.

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Teaching in English draws students from all over the world and prepares Scandinavians for work abroad.

The trend toward the internationalization of management programs in Scandinavian business schools has been strongly reinforced in recent years by the growing assimilation into Europe and companies' desires to deepen trading links with counterparts on the Continent.

Schools and colleges now offer a diverse array of programs in English that were once only available in Scandinavian languages. In addition, foreign placements have become de rigueur for most internationally oriented business and management courses.

The Institute of International Business in Stockholm, a pioneer when it launched its first management program in English in 1981, now runs 20 such courses. The international graduate program is a three-semester M.S. for students with a bachelor's or equivalent degree from a non-Swedish university. Key areas of study include economics and business in Europe, East Asia and Japan.

"It is vital for our students to get international experience, and as many as possible study for at least one semester abroad," says Robert Nobel, assistant director of the institute's international graduate program.

Promoting internships

Helsinki Business Polytechnic offered its first course in English in 1986 and now has 90 such programs. Its key motive was to offer as wide a range of interesting courses as possible to allow domestic students to participate more easily in reciprocal programs.

"Finland is not perhaps a natural place to come for a British student, for example, so we have worked hard to offer exciting programs," says Vice Principal Paula Kinnunen.

Among the most popular is the international market environmental analysis program, which explores marketing in different regions, including Russia. The course includes a study period in St. Petersburg.

The placement theme is much in evidence at Aalborg University in Denmark. It has two English programs – a two-year master's in international business economics and a one-year diploma in management with an international perspective.

An internship abroad is an integral part of the M.S. program, with 50 students each year spending five months working in different companies in 10 to 15 countries.

"We believe that a focus on methodology is as important as focus on theories," says Olav Jull Sørensen, Aalborg professor of International Business Economics.

Bodø Graduate School of Business in northern Norway offers a two-year M.S. in business that allows students to major in different subjects, such as marketing and finance, or international business innovation. A two-year course in advanced business administration is also available.

Work/study

At Copenhagen Business School, links with companies are a central theme. Four years ago, the school set up its Center for Continuing Education, aimed at providing tailor-made corporate training programs for industry.

Danish higher education institutions, like their other Nordic counterparts, have traditionally left corporate training to in-house programs and private institutes, but this is changing.

The Copenhagen Business School is increasing its activities in this field by between 20 percent and 30 percent a year. At present, the school's courses are primarily for managers of Danish companies or Danish subsidiaries abroad, but there is also a program for training Russian managers of big Scandinavian enterprises in St. Petersburg. And in 1997, a five-week international management course for top young managers from big European companies will be launched.

Teamwork

Copenhagen International Management Institute runs an executive MBA program for managers in their late thirties that aims to create a learning triangle between faculty, company and participant. The 18-month part-time course is unusual in that it grades participants on their leadership skills and ability to work within and coordinate a team.

"This represents a new trend in business education.

Team-building abilities and personal leadership skills are taken very seriously, and we don't just measure the participants' analytical abilities," says the institute's director, Niels Arnfred.

At Niels Brock Copenhagen Business College, an international business associate course is offered as a staging post between upper secondary school and higher education. The one-year program in English is aimed at college-bound students who want to improve their language skills and international business knowledge before entering higher education. For foreign students wishing to study at the college level, the course offers a valuable chance to earn formal Danish qualifications.

"Many companies have asked us why students don't have a better knowledge of languages and business vocabulary when they leave secondary school, and we are responding to that," explains Director of Education Henrik Nerup.

The bottom line

Leaders of the Swedish Institute of Management in Stockholm believe that the growth of the institute's corporate training programs has mirrored the internationalization of the country's industry. The school runs management programs for a number of leading corporations. The primary course is the international general management program for top managers, covering corporate strategy and functions while looking at international organizations and their relationship with subsidiaries.

The institute directs placements for managers in Brussels and Berlin.

"Companies want their managers to have an international perspective," says Anders Lindström, the managing director of the institute's training center. ■

SECONDARY ED IS COSMOPOLITAN

Students learn in other tongues and study abroad.

Scandinavia's rising prominence as a key European corporate center and the resulting growth of expatriate communities in the major cities has spurred a strong expansion in the international schools sector in recent years. Today, there are close to 30 international schools of various types dotted across the region, and the number is growing all the time.

One of the newest is the International School in Nacka, a Stockholm suburb, which opened in the autumn of 1995. Sweden's admission to the European Union last year has prompted an influx of foreign companies, and the school was set up expressly to cater to the increasing demand for international education.

In contrast to many other foreign schools, a large number of which are fee-paying, the school is wholly funded by the local municipality. The no-charge philosophy also applies to the school's exchange program, under which pupils can study in London or Paris for periods ranging from two weeks to a year – a scheme that is soon to be expanded to Moscow.

Lessons are given in English at Nacka, but Principal Barbro Willners stresses that as many hours of Swedish are taught as at a Swedish state school. Students also have the opportunity to take the International Baccalaureate (IB) program at the affiliated Saltsjobadens Samskola, also located in the municipality.

In recent years, the IB program has mushroomed across Scandinavia, following its launch in 1968. Until 1990, only nine schools participated, but a further 24 have joined in the past six years.

Monica Flodman, the IB program's associate regional director for Europe, says the key to the IB's success is the Nordic heritage of language learning.

"The foreign language tradition is deeply rooted in Scandinavia, so the international element of the IB program is natural for us," she says.

At the Copenhagen International School, the only one of its kind in Scandinavia to offer courses from pre-kindergarten through high school, the IB is the curriculum's centerpiece. The school was the first in the Nordic region to become affiliated with the scheme and still relies almost exclusively on native English teachers. All lessons are in English, but if a new pupil is unable to speak the language, it is not an obstacle: He or she starts off doing mathematics, where the need for language ability is less pronounced.

Summer and exchange programs vary widely among different schools. At Nacka, the emphasis is on exchanges. There is no summer program, but week-long camp schools are offered during the school year.

At Copenhagen, there are no exchanges, but there is a popular summer program that runs for a fortnight from the end of June. Open to pupils and non-pupils alike, it includes historical visits and instruction in computers as well as music lessons and other activities. ■

HELSINKI BUSINESS SCHOOL HAS INTERNATIONAL APPROACH

Founded in 1991, the Helsinki School of Economics and Business Administration (HSE) was one of the first institutions in the Nordic countries to conduct university-level business education and research. Today, it is the largest business school in Finland, with around 3,000 students studying for the M.S. and the international BBA and MBA degrees.

Veikko Jäliskelainen of HSE.

The following is an interview with Veikko Jäliskelainen, rector (dean) of the HSE.

Every business school has to offer something special in what is a very competitive world. What are the main strengths of the HSE?

Well, two things I think. Firstly, our traditional programs, the M.S. and B.S., have been established for some time: 50 years in the case of the master's degree. This means we have built up a strong alumni network. I believe 18 CEOs of the top hundred companies in Finland are former students of ours, and although companies don't donate to the school, this firsthand knowledge of what we have to offer is very useful.

Secondly, our international career-oriented programs, the MBA, BBA and Executive MBA, are designed in a way that gives students the very best tutelage. Finland is an out-of-the-way place on the world map, and it's hard to get professors to come here for long periods.

So instead we bring them in for three weeks at a time, and they cover a topic for three hours a day. This gives us the possibility of providing a faculty that would otherwise be unthinkable, with top lecturers from North America, Europe, Asia and Australia.

Is that necessary to draw foreign students?

Yes, and we're getting more and more from abroad. More than 30 percent of our MBA students are non-Finnish, from some 15 countries. The Executive MBA is more local, but we are getting students from the Baltic states, most of whose tuition is paid for by their companies.

Has Finnish membership in the European Union increased the flow of students to and from your school?

To be honest, it hasn't really helped very much. The financial aid provided by the EU for foreign students only amounts to around 10 percent of their costs, and of course it's restricted to within the Union. The fastest-growing area of Finnish exports is to Asia, and our programs must follow industry, meeting its needs. We work hard to attract Asian students, but it's not easy. Most Koreans, for example, study in the United States, while our first Korean student came last year.

How are demands from business changing your programs? Is multimedia a factor?

The demand for qualifications in multimedia, the Internet and all forms of electronic communication is growing very fast. The main problem is building up a competent faculty. We're bringing in lecturers from North America on a short-term basis for our summer program.

What other changes have you introduced?

We've borrowed an idea from the Manchester Business School, i.e., having students work on company projects. We can assemble an international student team to carry out a market study anywhere in the world. And we've started placement services, which were used by some 170 companies here last year.

Interview by K.F.

EU MEMBERS TRAVEL ABROAD TO STUDY AND TO TEACH

Learning languages and participating in exchange programs have proven very important to Scandinavians for their integration into the European Union.

European integration has galvanized education in the Nordic countries ever since Denmark joined the European Economic Community in 1973. In the intervening years, Sweden, Finland and Norway all joined the European Economic Area – a free-trade union encompassing the European Union and the European Free Trade Area (EFTA) countries.

Since January 1, 1995, Sweden and Finland have been EU members, a status that has further extended opportunities for student and faculty mobility.

Peter Jädersten, of the Stockholm School of Economics, says the growing impact of European integration has changed students' educational demands. "Before, it was enough that it was an international subject, but today's courses need to have faculty from different countries and to be taught in different places, not just in the home country," he says. "The international dimension must be everywhere in the program."

In the school's 20-week executive MBA program, students are given the choice of spending a week at either the London Business School, INSEAD in Paris or Wharton Business School in Pennsylvania.

European Commission

At Folkuniversitetet, Sweden's largest internationally oriented adult education organization, EU entry has coincided with a rise in the level of competition in the educational sector.

"There are more actors on the market," says department head Ulf Boquist, adding that more companies are conducting in-house courses with an international perspective following Swedish EU entry.

Funding from the EU's regional program has enabled Folkuniversitetet to launch new projects aimed at, among others, young people and small and medium-sized businesses. The initiatives fall under the European Commission's Leonardo da Vinci educational training umbrella.

In the first scheme of its type in the region, it has linked up with Copenhagen Business School and Lund University to establish a program to train EU coordinators. This course is also funded by Leonardo.

EF Education in Stockholm reports no major rise in the number of applicants for language courses due to Swedish EU entry, but Christer Hinderoth, EF country manager, says he believes that membership had deepened the focus on languages at all levels.

"There is a very big interest in languages, and this is of course due to the EU. We have focused hard on making people aware that we are moving into a new kind of society without borders," he says.

The Center for International Mobility in Helsinki coordinates trainee and scholarship programs for Finnish students abroad and vice versa, as well as coordinating EU training programs. Katri Myllykoski, the center's information services specialist, says EU membership has made Finland a more attractive partner for exchanges.

English has long been the leading foreign language in Finland, and Ms. Myllykoski expects the number of reciprocal visits to start rising this year. ■

DON'T MISS THE IHT CERAN COMPETITION THIS WEEK
See on Page 5

UNIVERSITY OF OSLO
The University of Oslo, established 1811, is Norway's oldest and largest university with a staff and student population in the region of 40.000 who administer, teach, carry out and study at its eight faculties and seven centres.
The Centre for Viking and Medieval Studies has recently established a Master of Philosophy programme and a semester unit in Viking and Medieval studies in English. Deadline for application: 15 April 1996.
Enquiries and applications to: Department of International Relations, P.O. Box 1081 Blindern, N-0317 Oslo, Norway.
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2. Scandinavian Languages and Multilingualism for Multicultural and International Activities
The above mentioned programmes are a part of a project called School for Scandinavian Studies organized in collaboration with the Umeå University in Sweden.
For more information, please contact:
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WORLD ROUNDUP

Mike Blake/Reuters

Third in the pairs, Evgenia Shishkova and Vadim Naumov.

German Pair Leads

SKATING Mandy Wotzel and Ingo Steuer of Germany opened the short program Tuesday at the World Figure Skating Championships in Edmonton, Alberta, then sat around for two hours while 22 more pairs skated, before being certain they were in the lead ahead of two Russian pairs, Marina Eltsova and Andrei Bushkov, and the 1994 world champions, Evgenia Shishkova and Vadim Naumov. In ice dancing, the Olympic champions, Oksana Gritschuk and Evgeny Platov of Russia, won both the samba and tango sections. *(AP)*

Coach Ends Vegas Dream

BASKETBALL John Thompson, Georgetown's coach, bowed to the wishes of his university president, Wednesday and said he will drop his application for a Nevada gaming license. Thompson had planned to operate slot machines at the Las Vegas airport but was told by the Reverend Leo O'Donovan, the university's president, that he couldn't do that and remain the Hoyas coach. *(AP)*

Owners Plan to Share

BASEBALL Club owners expect to pass a revenue-sharing plan Thursday, the final day of a two-day session in Phoenix. Teams would give 22 percent of their local money, including tickets and broadcasting, to a revenue-sharing fund. Under the plan, 13 teams would give money and 13 teams would receive, with Colorado and Florida exempt. *(AP)*

Detroit Votes for Stadium

Voters in Detroit overwhelmingly approved using $40 million of public money to build a new Tiger Stadium, but opponents are still pursuing a lawsuit over the use of state funds.

• In Cincinnati, voters approved a half-cent sales tax increase to pay for two new stadiums in a $544 million project, even though there has been no agreement on the designs, and neither the Reds nor Bengals has committed to financial contributions. *(AP)*

Asia Wants Peace

SOCCER The Asian Football Confederation said Wednesday it has urged FIFA, the world soccer body, to make Japan and South Korea cohosts of the 2002 World Cup. The group's president, Ahmad Shah, said he was alarmed by the "unprecedented rivalry between Japan and Korea in this campaign" *(AP)*

Cool Ouedec Puts Nantes Into the Cup Semifinals

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

Two second-half goals by Nicolas Ouedec gave Nantes a 2-2 tie Wednesday in Moscow for a 4-2 aggregate victory over Spartak and a place in the semifinals of the European Cup.

Ajax Amsterdam, Juventus and Panathinaikos also secured semifinal berths.

Spartak wiped out Nantes' two-goal first-leg advantage with a pair of goals by Yuri Nikiforov before halftime. The first was a crashing drive from outside the penalty area after 33 minutes; the second, five minutes later, was a header from a corner.

EUROPEAN CUP

Ouedec put the French champion ahead again in the 63d minute, picking up on a hopeful, forward pass and flicking the ball past Ruslan Nigmatullin, Moscow's goalkeeper. Five minutes from the end, Ouedec again finished coolly. After taking a low pass, he sidestepped a defender and smashed the ball over Nigmatullin.

In the other second-leg quarterfinal games Wednesday, Ajax Amsterdam claimed its expected semifinal spot, 3-0 on aggregate after a 1-0 victory over Borussia Dortmund.

Kiki Musampa, the youngest man on the field at 18, played in tandem with Nwankwo Kanu and drove the ball between the legs of Dortmund's goalkeeper, Stefan Klos, after 75 minutes for the game's only goal.

The German champion never seriously threatened to make up the 2-0 deficit from its home leg two weeks ago.

Despite the hectic pace in the first 15 minutes, Ajax still managed to play its normal tactics of retaining the ball and waiting for an opening.

Injuries and suspensions meant that Ajax had used all its experienced players and had three 19-year-olds and an 18-year-old on the substitutes' bench.

Juventus qualified for the semifinals with a 2-0 victory against Real Madrid before a crowd of 70,000 in Turin, making up for a 0-1 defeat in Madrid in the first leg.

Alessandro Del Piero gave the Turin team a 1-0 first-half lead, scoring on a free kick in the 16th minute.

Michele Padovano tallied the qualifying goal in the 53d minute, with a diagonal shot, after a defensive error by the Spanish team.

Both teams ended the match with 10 players after the second-half expulsions of Rafael Alkorta of Madrid and Moreno Torricelli of Juventus.

Panathinaikos shut out Legia Warsaw to win, 3-0 on aggregate, after a goalless tie in the first leg. Marcin Jalocha of Legia was ejected from the game after 31 minutes, and three minutes later, Krisztof Warzycha gave Panathaikos the lead.

Warzycha added a second goal in the 58th minute, and Juan José Borelli ensured the Greek victory with a third in the 78th. *(AP, AFP, Reuters)*

Vintage Bordeaux Destroys AC Milan

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

Italy will not provide a UEFA Cup finalist for the first time since 1989 after AC Milan and Roma were knocked out in the quarterfinals Tuesday.

Milan, finalist in five of the previous seven European Cups, fell 3-0, to the struggling French team Bordeaux, to lose 3-2 on aggregate. Roma lost to the Czech league leader, Slavia Prague, on the away-goal rule, though the Italians won the second leg, 3-1 after extra time.

UEFA CUP

In the other two quarterfinals, Barcelona survived the last half hour of its tie with 10 men to beat the host Dutch team PSV Eindhoven, 3-2, and 5-4 on aggregate, while Bayern Munich, thrashed England's last survivor, Nottingham Forest, 5-1 away, 7-2 on aggregate.

Bordeaux, which qualified through the much maligned Intertoto Cup, and whose best performances in Europe were in two semifinals, compared to Milan's seven European trophies, made the Italians look like an ordinary team.

Bordeaux, playing its 90th game in Europe, a French record, gave a remarkable display.

Didier Tholot scored the first goal at 15 minutes. Richard Witschge found Bixente Lizarazu on the left flank with a 35-yard cross-field ball. He swept the ball across the face of the goal for Tholot.

Only Milan's World Footballer of the Year, the Liberian striker George Weah, who broke his arm but played on, lived up to his reputation.

Twice, Bordeaux's goalkeeper, Gaetan Huard, foiled the Liberian, brilliantly parrying a vicious drive before halftime and then, at 3-0, twisting in midair to push a towering header over the net. By that time, Christophe Dugarry had scored twice midway through the second half. First, he lashed in an 18-meter (20-yard) shot at 64 minutes. Then he scored on a pass from Zinedine Zidane.

"I'm voiceless. They really played like gods. We are just happy," said Alain Juppé, France's prime minister and the mayor of Bordeaux, who was in the stands.

In Rome, Jiri Vavra, a substitute, scored the crucial goal for Slavia Prague five minutes from the end of the extra period after the Italians had wrested control of the tie with second-half goals from Francesco Moriero at 60 minutes and Giuseppe Giannini, 8 minutes from the end of regulation time to force the extra half hour.

Nine minutes into overtime, Moriero scored again. However, Vavra's late strike gave Slavia Prague its first European semifinal and ensured that Italy's run of winning six of the last seven UEFA cups would end.

In Eindhoven, Barcelona took a 2-0 first-half lead in 22 minutes on goals by José Maria Bakero and Luis Figo. Boudewijn Zenden scored for PSV before halftime.

Miguel Angel Nadal of Barcelona was ejected in the 58th minute for hitting PSV's Rene Eykelkamp in the face. His Dutch victim gained quick revenge with a goal seven minutes later, which evened the score at 4.

But 10-man Barcelona had the last word with a goal from Sergi Barjuan, 11 minutes before the final whistle, which made it 3-2 for the Spanish club on the night and 5-4 on aggregate.

(AP, AFP, Reuters)

A Corpse That Runs and Runs and Runs

By Ian Thomsen
International Herald Tribune

NOTTINGHAM, England — So concludes Chapter XXIV from the never-ending serial: The Death of English Soccer. We so look forward to the release of Chapter XXV in June, when host England attempts to win the European Championship.

Sarcasm aside, there are always reasons to believe that the English will recall the spirit that won the World Cup at Wembley in the fuzzy-gray days of 1966. They talk about spirit and heart more than any other country. More reasonably, though, they might feel more secure admitting their modern faults and using the sort of squelching defensive-mindedness that won the Cup Winners' Cup for Arsenal two years ago.

For a good halfhour Tuesday, Nottingham Forest took on the grainy, gray and glorious look of 30 years ago. A daring experiment: Then the time machine blew up.

Forest became England's final casualty in Europe this season with its 5-1 loss at home in the second leg of the UEFA Cup quarterfinal to Bayern Munich. The Germans, who have their own problems, albeit blithe compared to England, advanced to the semifinal, 7-2 overall.

Such hopes seem ludicrous now, but there had been talk of Forest seizing this round with a 1-0 victory here. It seemed the perfect formula for an English club: Take no risks, allow nothing, frustrate the more talented opponent to hell and score the winner in a moment of distraction.

Frank Clark, Forest's manager, declined to follow the Arsenal plan.

"I didn't think a really cagey game was the game for us to play," he said. "I thought they might be better at it than we were."

It seems that he told his players to score the first goal, as if trying to land uppercuts on Mike Tyson at the opening bell, and discombobulate him; at the same time, he said, his back four were to let nothing through: but if they did, the goalkeeper was to save everything. He explained this morosely, thoughtfully, in his baritone voice, with a disarming smile.

For that half hour his players played nothing like the typical English team in Europe. Steve Stone, England's new midfielder, moved easily past Christian Ziege and into the German box. Bryan Roy, the Dutch striker tapped to himself twice while turning a half circle around Ziege for a clear volley in front of goal. There were several other chances — all to be cleared off the line by a defender, or taken directly at the goalkeeper, or popped over the bar.

Then Lothar Matthäus arranged a free kick for Bayern by shuffling Jürgen Klinsmann into the Forest wall. Matthäus placed the ball and Ziege hooked it around Klinsmann to the far right corner, under the dive of Mark Crossley. There was no spirit to it and it was perfect.

"If we had scored the first goal, it might have been different. It might have been," Clark repeated, not wanting to sound ridiculous.

As the German goals streamed in from the 44th minute — including two for Klinsmann and the first this year for the forgotten Jean-Pierre Papin — the night absorbed the cliché of England's growing hopelessness in the games it gave to the world. In the recent Cricket World Cup, it defeated only Kenya and the United Arab Emirates; in rugby, despite consistent victory in the Five Nations Championship of Europe, England cannot match the Southern Hemisphere powers; and in soccer, the founders have yet to recover the skill and ingenuity that were evident before English clubs were banned from Europe in the late 1980s.

The bigger English clubs — Manchester United and Liverpool — were ousted long ago from the UEFA Cup, and Blackburn was humiliated in the Champions League. Manchester United has blamed its failures, in part, on the European restrictions of foreign players which will not be in effect next season. The English Premiership leader, Newcastle, with its recent signing of Faustino Asprilla from Italy, is aiming toward success in Europe next season.

The leadership fell on a medium-sized club, Forest, which started only four internationals to Bayern's 11. Forest, winner of the European Cup in 1979 and 1980 under Brian Clough's system — carried on now by Clark — reached its potential by coming this far.

Forest highlighted at once the hopes and limits of the English game, which is known for sticking to the fastest gear. Forest knows how to downshift, and likes to control the ball; still it was no match for Bayern.

"Their counterattacking play in the second half was world-class, and it would be an object lesson to any country, I'd have thought," said Clark, declining to indict his own country. These things run in cycles, he was reminded, but he wouldn't bite: "It's been a long time since German football had troubles," he laughed, rubbing his brow.

The Germans might have sensed doom two years ago, looking old and tired as Bulgaria knocked them out of the World Cup quarterfinal. But a few old leaders have been phased out, chief among them Matthäus, who turns 35 on Thursday. He is still recovering from an Achilles tendon rupture, and he has been replaced as national team captain by Klinsmann, a spry 31. Germany has won 17 of 18 games since the World Cup, and will be among the favorites at the European Championships here in June.

How will England fare? There are still arguments about the makeup of the team, especially at striker, and vague hopes that the spirit of 1966 will smooth everything over. The team's manager, Terry Venables, named 12 players of 24 or younger to England's squad for the game against Bulgaria next week.

But the experiments, in all their forms, continue to disappoint. The comprehensive advantage in talent exhibited by Bayern might reappear this summer should Germany, Italy or a breakthrough contender come to face England.

Then the English will have to choose: Do they extend themselves by going for the first goal, and give themselves the ultimate chance, without a net to catch them if they fail; or do they settle back and play the cagey game, the kind that probably would have failed even more humiliatingly, because of its lack of hope and spirit, than a 5-1 defeat.

David Jones/The Associated Press

Nottingham Forest's Steve Stone, right, outracing Thomas Strunz of Bayern Munich in their quarterfinal.

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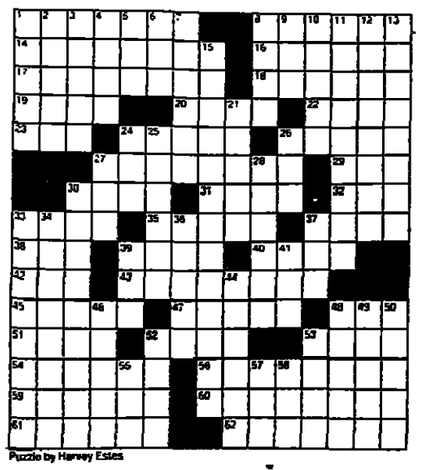
57 Noshed
58 90 from 38-Across



Puzzle by Harvey Estes

© New York Times/Edited by Will Shortz.

Solution to Puzzle of March 20

G	A	L	A		D	A	U	B		A	B	A	C	K
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TWA
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SCOREBOARD

BASKETBALL

NBA Standings

EASTERN CONFERENCE

ATLANTIC DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
x-Orlando	50	17	.746	—
New York	37	26	.587	11
Miami	32	33	.492	17
Washington	30	35	.462	19
New Jersey	26	39	.400	23
Boston	25	40	.385	24
Philadelphia	13	52	.200	36

CENTRAL DIVISION

xy-Chicago	59	7	.894	—
Indiana	40	25	.615	18½
Cleveland	37	28	.569	21½
Detroit	37	28	.569	21½
Atlanta	35	29	.547	23
Charlotte	32	31	.517	25
Milwaukee	21	43	.328	37
Toronto	16	48	.250	42

WESTERN CONFERENCE

MIDWEST DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	46	18	.719	—
Utah	45	20	.692	1½
Houston	42	24	.636	5
Denver	28	37	.431	18½
Minnesota	21	44	.323	25½
Dallas	21	45	.318	26
Vancouver	11	52	.175	34½

PACIFIC DIVISION

x-Seattle	50	15	.769	—
L.A. Lakers	41	23	.641	8½
Phoenix	32	33	.492	18
Portland	32	34	.484	18½
Golden State	30	37	.448	21
Sacramento	28	36	.438	21½
L.A. Clippers	23	42	.354	27

x-clinched playoff spot
y-clinched division

TUESDAY'S RESULTS

Vancouver 18 23 21 15—77
New Jersey 22 23 14 23—82
V: Wilkins 7-12 0-0 15; B.Reeves 7-18 1-3 15. N.J.: Gillam 5-6 6-6 16; Bradley 8-15 1-1 17. Rebounds— Vancouver 45 (B.Reeves 10), N.J. 53 (Gillam 10). Assists— Vancouver 16 (Wilkins 6), N.J. 21 (Childs 9).
Detroit 18 19 26 28— 91
Orlando 19 22 38 34—113
D: Houston 6-11 1-2 14; Hunter 4-7 5-7 15. O: Grant 12-17 2-3 26; Bowie 8-14 4-5 20; Thompson 6-13 5-6 21. Rebounds— Detroit 42 (Thorpe, Hill, Mills 6), Orlando 54 (Bowie 10). Assists— Detroit 19 (Hill 7), Orlando 31 (Hardaway 11).
Indiana 18 18 25 33— 94
Charlotte 27 27 15 33—102
I: Smits 11-17 2-2 24; Miller 5-14 10-11 20. C: Geiger 7-12 0-1 14; Rice 9-19 3-3 22. Rebounds— Indiana 49 (Smits 11), Charlotte 42 (Geiger 11). Assists— Indiana 22 (Miller, Jackson 6), Charlotte 32 (L.Johnson 14).
Golden State 27 27 26 17 8—105
Houston 21 18 27 31 5—102
G.S.: J.Smith 8-17 4-6 20; Armstrong 10-17 13-15 35. H: Harry 10-17 0-0 26; K.Smith 8-11 0-1 19. Rebounds— G.S. 65 (Kersey 14), Houston 60 (Breaux 11). Assists— G.S. 18 (Sprewell 7), Houston 22 (K.Smith 8).
Sacramento 18 15 27 7— 67
Chicago 22 24 18 25— 89
S: Grant 4-10 2-4 10; Richmond 8-20 4-4 23. C: Kukoc 6-12 4-5 18; Jordan 7-16 6-6 20. Rebounds— Sacramento 59 (Causwell 14), Chicago 52 (Jordan 9). Assists— Sacramento 13 (Edney 4), Chicago 20 (Kukoc 7).
Cleveland 28 25 17 19—81
Dallas 11 25 20 14—72
C: Ferry 8-11 2-3 24; Brandon 4-14 5-6 14. D: McCloud 6-19 2-2 18; Kidd 4-17 4-4 14. Rebounds— Cleveland 49 (Mojerle 10), Dallas 49 (Williams 10). Assists— Cleveland 16 (Mojerle 5), Dallas 16 (Jackson 4).
Minnesota 18 22 17 21— 78
Portland 32 34 27 23—106
M: Rider 4-8 5-5 14; Mitchell 6-12 1-1 13. P: Strickland 8-13 4-5 20; Williams 5-9 3-4 13. Rebounds— Minnesota 33 (Garnett 7), Portland 66 (Dudley 11). Assists— Minnesota 20 (Porter 5), Portland 18 (Strickland 5).
Seattle 21 19 18 13—71
L.A. Lakers 28 22 27 17—94
S: Kemp 3-10 7-8 13; Payton 5-11 5-6 17. L.A.: Campbell 6-13 2-4 14; Jones 10-14 2-4 26. Rebounds— Seattle 47 (Kemp 15), L.A. 56 (Campbell 10). Assists— Seattle 18 (Schrempf 6), Los Angeles 24 (Mr.Johnson 10).

HOCKEY

NHL Standings

EASTERN CONFERENCE

ATLANTIC DIVISION

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
N.Y. Rangers	36	20	14	86	242	197
Florida	37	24	9	83	232	202
Philadelphia	35	21	13	83	236	182
New Jersey	32	26	11	75	181	163
Washington	33	29	8	74	196	182
Tampa Bay	32	28	10	74	206	218
N.Y. Islanders	20	41	8	48	199	269

NORTHEAST DIVISION

Pittsburgh	41	24	4	86	308	237
Montreal	34	27	8	76	225	211
Boston	32	28	9	73	237	232
Hartford	30	31	7	67	206	219
Buffalo	27	36	7	61	204	217
Ottawa	15	51	3	33	168	251

WESTERN CONFERENCE

CENTRAL DIVISION

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
y-Detroit	53	12	4	110	269	155
Chicago	36	23	11	83	239	187
St. Louis	31	27	12	74	192	200
Toronto	28	32	12	68	212	222
Winnipeg	29	35	5	63	233	252
Dallas	22	38	12	56	194	231

PACIFIC DIVISION

x-Colorado	40	21	10	90	281	205
Vancouver	27	30	15	69	249	249
Calgary	28	30	11	67	207	206
Anaheim	28	36	6	62	197	217
Edmonton	26	37	7	59	202	262
Los Angeles	21	36	15	57	224	266
San Jose	16	49	7	39	221	315

y-clinched division title
x-clinched playoff spot

TUESDAY'S RESULTS

Edmonton 1 2 1—4
N.Y. Rangers 1 0 0—1
First Period: E-Czerkawski 13 (Salon, McAmmond). 2. New York, Leetch 14 (Lidster, Sundstrom). Second Period: E-Mironov 4 (Weight, Norton) (pp). 4. E-Czerkawski 14 (Weight, Ciger). Third Period: E-Mironov 5 (Weight, Norton) (pp). Shots on goal: E- 5-17-10—32. New York 12-10-8—30. Goalies: E-Joseph. New York, Richter.
Ottawa 1 0 1—2
Florida 2 2 1—5
First Period: F-Jovanovski 10 (Shtalenkov, Woolley). 2. F-Hull 19 (Fitzgerald, Lowry). Second Period: F-Lindsay 11 (Dvorak, Worrsell). 3. F-Hull 20 (Skrudland, Fitzgerald). Third Period: O-Demitra 6 (Picard, Archibald) (pp). 7. F-Lowry 10 (Mellanby, Svehla). Shots on goal: O- 5-11-9—25. F- 9-13-6—28. Goalies: O-Rhodes, Bales. F-Vanbiesbrouck.
Toronto 2 1 2—5
Detroit 1 2 3—6
First Period: T-Clark 26 (Kolzeus, Gilmour) :54. 2. T-Presley 6 (Gagner, Elett). 3. D-Lidstrom 15 (Fedorov, Taylor). Second Period: D-Fedorov 31 (Lidstrom, Coffey) (pp). 5. T-Yushkevich 1 (Kypreos). 6. D-Sheen 9 (Fedorov, Fetisov). Third Period: D-Lidstrom 16 (Draper). 8. D- Fedorov 32 (Coffey, Yzerman) (pp). 9. D-Yzerman 35 (Ciccarelli, Fedorov) (pp). 10. T-Clark 27 (Gagner, Elett). 11. T-Sundin 30 (Muller, Murphy). Shots on goal: T- 8-5-9—22. D- 8-12-14—34. Goalies: T-Potvin. D-Vernon.
N.Y. Islanders 0 0 1—1
Philadelphia 1- 2 1—4
First Period: P-LeClair 38 (Brind'Amour, Pelloni) (pp). Second Period: P-Pelloni 24 (Lindros, Howerchuk) (pp). 2. P-LeClair 39 (Howerchuk, Desjardins) (pp). Third Period: New York, McCabe 5 (Jonsson, Green) (pp). 5. P-Podein 13 (Brind'Amour, Lindros) (en). Shots on goal: New York 10-14-6—30. P- 12-22-7—41. Goalies: New York, Soderstrom, Richaud. P-Hextall.
Anaheim 0 2 0—2
Washington 0 1 0—1
First Period—None. Second Period: A-Karpov 7 (Ruchin, J.Socco). 2. W-Ustorf 6 (Johansson). 3. A-Ruccitis 17 (Karpov, J.Socco). Third Period—None. Shots on goal: A-10-3-3—16. W- 8-12-14—34. Goalies: A-Hebert. W-Carey.
Colorado 2 1 1—4
Vancouver 1 0 2—3
First Period: V-Ronning 19 (Tikkanen). 2. Colorado, Lemieux 35 (Forsberg, Kramarsky). 3. Colorado, Yelle 8 (Ricci, Keane). Second Period: Colorado, Young 19 (Czolinsh, Selak) (pp). Third Period: V-Tikkanen 14 (Lumme, Linden) :22 (pp). 4. V-Linden 30 (Geltnas, Courtnall). 5. Colorado, Simon 13 (Selak, Klemm). Shots on goal: Colorado 7-10-7—24. V- 9-11-10—30. Goalies: Colorado, Roy. V-McLean.

SOCCER

UEFA Cup

QUARTERFINALS, SECOND LEG

PSV Eindhoven 2, Barcelona 3
(Barcelona won 5-4 on aggregate).
Girondins Bordeaux 3, AC Milan 0
(Bordeaux won 3-2 on aggregate).
Nottingham Forest 1, Bayern Munich 5
(Bayern Munich won 7-2 on aggregate).
Roma 3, Slavia Prague 1
(Aggregate score: 3-3. Prague won on away goals).

GERMAN BUNDESLIGA

Bayer Leverkusen 2, Hansa Rostock 0
Uerdingen 3, VfB Stuttgart 4
Hamburg 0, Cologne 0

ENGLISH PREMIER LEAGUE

Aston Villa 0, Middlesbrough 0

BASEBALL

Exhibition Results

TUESDAY'S GAMES

Cleveland 9, St. Louis 6
Kansas City 7, Detroit 6
Montreal 7, Los Angeles 3
Pittsburgh 6, Texas 1
Cincinnati 4, N.Y. Mets 2
California 7, Milwaukee 4
Colorado 9, Oakland 8
Chicago Cubs 5, San Francisco 2
San Diego 8, Seattle 6, first game
Minnesota 5, Toronto 1
Chicago White Sox 13, Boston 4
Philadelphia 7, N.Y. Yankees 4
San Diego 4, Seattle 2, second game

Bumblebee Theory Has the Hogs Flying

Arkansas Is in Sweet 16 Again

By Anthony Cotton
Washington Post Staff Writer

FAYETTEVILLE, Arkansas — Over the past few seasons Nolan Richardson could usually be found out on a golf course when the brackets for the National Collegiate Athletic Association men's basketball tournament were presented. This year, however, selection day found the Arkansas coach squarely in front of a television, like the coaches from all the other teams across the country who wondered if they would get in.

"Before, I knew we'd be in (and) I didn't care who we were playing or where. (But) this year, I watched it real close," Richardson said. "The way they did it, with the East first, we were one of the first teams up on the screen. If that wasn't the case, I know my heart would have been pumping and getting bigger and bigger and my throat would have been tightening. But once I saw our name, I didn't care where we were going or who we were playing."

Things seem back to normal with the Razorbacks. Victories over Penn State and Marquette in the first two rounds of the East Region have sent Arkansas into the round of 16 for the fourth straight year and sixth time in the past seven seasons. But unlike its predecessors, this team advanced as an underdog 12th seed.

No other at-large selection was seeded below the Razorbacks — only champions from weaker leagues — and they were placed in the same region as Massachusetts, the nation's No. 1 team and their opponent in Thursday night's regional semifinal in Atlanta. These things mean that Arkansas was probably the last school admitted to the 64-team field.

The Razorbacks (20-12) entered the tournament with a 20-point loss to Kentucky in their previous game and a starting lineup that featured four freshmen. But if this formula is not quite the one used by the previous two Arkansas teams, which won the national title in 1994 and lost to UCLA in the 1995 championship game, it does have a familiar ring to it.

"So we start four freshmen; we just tell ourselves that Michigan started five freshmen (in 1992) and they went to the championship game," said point guard Kareem Reid, one of the precocious first-year players.

"A lot of people said this was a down year, that we were unable to live up to Arkansas' reputation," said the other guard, Pat Bradley. "Maybe we're just showing those people we can have a nice run and make a name for ourselves."

Reid set an Arkansas season record for assists with 211; Bradley has hit 79 three-point field goals. Forward Derek Hood has averaged almost 10 rebounds in his past six games, and Marlon Towns has averaged 11 points since joining the other freshman in the starting lineup five games ago. Junior center Darnell Robinson, the only member of the team who had started more than six games entering the season, rounds out the starting five.

"It's like the bumblebee theory," said Richardson. "Aeronautically, they have these little wings and this big ol' body so they're not supposed to be able to fly. But they do — somebody forgot to tell them that they couldn't. It's the same with these freshmen; someone forgot to tell them that they were no good, that they weren't supposed to be able to play."

The Hogs lost 87 percent of their scoring and 83 percent of their rebounding with the departure of 10 players from the '94-95 team. That included stars Corey Beck, Corliss Williamson and Scotty Thurman (the latter two, both juniors and the team's leading scorers, declared for early entry into the NBA draft). When this year's team took the court for the first day of practice, only five lettermen and three scholarship players were in uniform. Towns missed the first 11 games of the season while going through arbitration over his score on the American College Test, and Robinson broke a bone in his foot and missed 13 games.

Because of their inexperience, the Hogs were unable to master the grinding, pressure defense traditionally used by Richardson's teams. And with the loss of their stars, they were unable to generate much offense — Arkansas averages 78 points a game, fewest since 1988. And with a schedule that included eight games against teams that made the NCAA tournament (with a 1-7 record in those contests), Arkansas struggled early, losing two of its first three games then going 2-2 at the start of the Southeastern Conference season.

AFTER THE team finally got going, winning six of eight games between Jan. 20 and Feb. 14, the bottom fell out again when the NCAA said Arkansas had prematurely placed junior college transfers Jesse Pate, its leading scorer, and Sunday Adebayo, its leading rebounder, on scholarship and declared them ineligible pending investigation. Adebayo missed five games and Pate four before the NCAA said they could never play for the school again. Richardson said the duo's loss probably was what started Arkansas' turnaround.

"They were playing like, "Maybe Jesse's gonna be back for the next game. Maybe Sunday's gonna be here soon,'" Richardson said. "Once they realized (the two players) weren't coming back, they realized they would have to be the ones who had to go from there."

After going 1-3 in the four games Pate and Adebayo were in limbo, the Razorbacks won two of the three games (losing to Kentucky) immediately following the NCAA's announcement. That was good enough to get Arkansas into the tournament; once that happened, said Richardson, "it took a whole load off the kids' shoulders. They didn't want to be the ones to break the string (of nine consecutive NCAA tournament appearances); once they got in it gave them new hope."

"Last week, nobody was on our side; now everybody's talking about us, calling us Cinderella," said Reid.

Richardson, who called this season one of his most enjoyable because of how far his team has come, has grown greedy. At the start of the season, he merely wanted to see Arkansas extend its tournament string. But not now. "Everybody came into this thing with a 0-0 record, so why not see how far we can go?" he said. "We're not playing a (U-Mass.) team that's won 30 games, they've won two, just like us. I asked the players, 'How many games in a row can you win? If you won three, where would you be? If you won five, where would you be?' I know if we win six we've won it all. "All they had to do was let us in there; now we want to win every game we can."

Bill Kostroun/The Associated Press

Vancouver's Bryant Reeves keeping the ball away from the New Jersey Nets' Rick Mahorn in game the Nets won.

High Scorers Take the Night Off

The Associated Press

Scoring 100 points was a rarity Tuesday night for teams in the National Basketball Association. Only three of the eight winners reached 100 and three others didn't even make it to 90.

On the losing side, totals included season lows of 67 points by Sacramento, 71 by Seattle and 72 by Dallas. Vancouver managed only 77 and Minnesota had 78.

In Houston, however, both teams reached 100 despite injuries that sidelined Hakeem Olajuwon, Clyde Drexler, Rony Seikaly and others. The Warriors beat the Rockets, 105-102, in overtime.

For a while, it appeared that the Rockets were on the way to one of those anemic point totals. They trailed, 74-53, with 3:17 left in the third quarter.

Bulls 89, Kings 67 Chicago broke the game open with a 21-0 run in the fourth quarter. The Kings scored only three points in the final 10½ minutes.

The Bulls won their 40th successive regular-season home game despite just 20 points from Michael Jordan and the absence of Scottie Pippen and Dennis Rodman.

"We are short-handed, we played four games in five nights — and we won all of them," said Toni Kukoc, who had another strong game in place of Pippen. The Bulls set records for fewest field goals allowed in a game (23), lowest field-goal percentage by an opponent (28 percent) and fewest points allowed in a fourth quarter (7).

Magic 113, Pistons 91 Orlando also won its 40th successive regular-season home game, breaking it open midway through the third quarter.

Anthony Bowie of the Magic called a time-out with 2.7 seconds remaining so he could try for his first career triple-double. Detroit's coach, Doug Collins, told his players not to defend and Bowie took a full-court pass and tossed the ball to David Vaughn for a dunk. Bowie finished with 20 points, 10 rebounds and 10 assists. "I'd like to formally apologize to Doug Collins, his staff, the fans and entire Detroit Pistons organization for the time-out," the Magic's coach, Brian Hill, said. "I thought it was totally uncalled for."

Lakers 94, SuperSonics 71 At home, Los Angeles joined Indiana and Dallas as the only teams to beat Seattle twice this season. Eddie Jones scored 26 points and Magic Johnson had 14 points and 10 assists. Seattle had won 13 successive games against Pacific Division opponents.

Trail Blazers 108, Timberwolves 78 In Portland, the Blazers won their sixth in a row with their second straight blowout victory. Rod Strickland, who scored 20 points in 30 minutes, is averaging 21 points and 10.5 assists since he returned from his six-game suspension six games ago.

Cavaliers 81, Mavericks 72 In Dallas, Danny Ferry scored 24 but the teams' 153 points were the lowest combined total in Mavericks' history. Dallas's 23 field goals were a season low, and the Mavs lost their eighth straight.

NBA ROUNDUP

Fresno State Turns the Big Ten Into the Big Zero

The Associated Press

It's easy to count the number of Big Ten teams playing today: Zero.

Nine Big Ten teams were invited to postseason basketball parties. None made it past the second round of either the NCAA or the National Invitation Tournament. Gone are Penn State, Indiana, Michigan, Purdue and Iowa — all bounced from the 64-team field in the National Collegiate Athletic Association. And when Fresno State finished its 80-70 throttling of Michigan State on Tuesday night, the last of four Big Ten teams in the NIT had completed its season.

Dominick Young scored 21 points and Kendric Brooks had 20 as the Bulldogs (22-10) advanced to a quarterfinal meeting Thursday at Fresno State against Nebraska.

In a doubleheader played in Providence, Rhode Island nipped College of Charleston in overtime after St. Joseph's eliminated Providence. The winners will battle Thursday in Philadelphia.

Nebraska 82, Washington State 73 Tom Wald scored six points in the final 49 seconds as Nebraska outlasted visiting Washington State. The Cougars, trailing 47-37 at the half, battled back to narrow Nebraska's lead to 74-73 with 2:52 left. But Washington State didn't score again and Nebraska sealed the victory at the free-throw line.

Rhode Island 62, Charleston 58 Rhode Island failed to score a field goal in the final 14 minutes of regulation and went from a 48-33 lead to a 53-51 deficit before Tyson Wheeler's two free throws with 26 seconds left in regulation sent the game into overtime.

Wheeler, who finished with 16 points and seven assists, sank a three-pointer in the extra session, and Preston Murphy hit four free throws in the final eight seconds as the Rams held off Charleston.

St. Joseph's 82, Providence 62 Mark Bass led five St. Joseph's players in double figures, and the Hawks built an 18-point first-half lead en route to a crushing victory over Providence.

Bass scored 17 of his 21 points in the first half for St. Joseph's, which has not advanced this far in the NIT since a 1956 semifinal appearance.

God Shammgod and Derrick Brown each had 19 points for Providence.

NIT ROUNDUP

Rangers Fall To 'Desperate' Edmonton

The Associated Press

The New York Rangers were encouraged that they got a full game from goaltender Mike Richter for the first time in 1996. Still, he could not stop their puzzling slide at home.

The Edmonton Oilers became the latest visiting team to do well at Madison Square Garden winning 4-1 Tuesday night. Mariusz Czerkawski and Boris Mironov each scored two goals.

The loss dropped the Rangers to 0-4-4 in their last eight home games. Before that slump, New York tied a team record with a 24-game unbeaten streak at the Garden.

"It's no secret our core group is struggling," the Rangers' captain, Mark Messier, said. "Our best players have not been playing well. That will happen in the course of a season. We've been struggling for two to three weeks."

Richter was playing for the first time in a month. He suffered a groin injury on Dec. 30, came back on Feb. 18 and hurt himself that night, and had been sidelined since that point.

"We are a more desperate team than they are," the Oilers' defenseman Jeff Norton said. "I think that showed tonight. I think we played as well as we've played all season — top to bottom, we all came to play."

Red Wings 6, Maple Leafs 5 Sergei Fedorov and Nicklas Lidstrom scored two goals each as Detroit rallied from a 2-0 deficit.

Fedorov added three assists as the Red Wings won their seventh straight game and upped their season record against visiting Toronto to 4-0.

Panthers 5, Senators 2 Jody Hull broke out of a scoring slump with two goals as Florida snapped visiting Ottawa's three-game winning streak.

Hull's goals, his 19th and 20th, were his first in 13 games for the Panthers.

Flyers 4, Islanders 1 John LeClair scored a pair of goals as Philadelphia peppered visiting New York with 41 shots.

Pat Falloon added a goal and an assist, and Dale Hawerchuk and Rod Brind'Amour had two assists each for the Flyers, who notched their first 3-game winning streak since Dec. 14-17. The victory also enabled Philadelphia, which is in a second-place tie with Florida, to climb within three points of the Atlantic Division-leading Rangers.

Mighty Ducks 2, Capitals 1 Anaheim extended its winning streak to a franchise-record five games, beating Washington for the first time behind a 33-save performance by Guy Hebert.

Valeri Karpov and Steve Rucchin each had a goal and an assist for the Mighty Ducks, who moved within a point of idle Winnipeg in the race for the final playoff spot in the Western Conference.

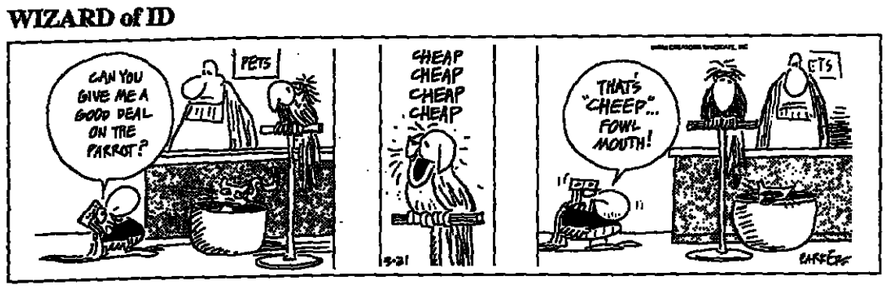
Avalanche 4, Canucks 3 An unlikely goal by Chris Simon gave Colorado the victory and sent the Canucks to their worst losing skid in five seasons.

Simon, a fighter who has accumulated 215 penalty minutes, one-timed a smooth pass from center Joe Sakic at 10:09 of the third period.

The loss was Vancouver's sixth straight, the first time the Canucks have lost that many in a row since 1990-91. The only bright spot for the Canucks was Trevor Linden's 500th point in the National Hockey League.

DOONESBURY

WIZARD of ID



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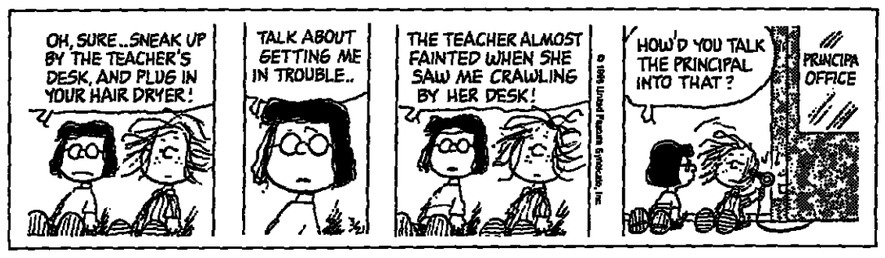
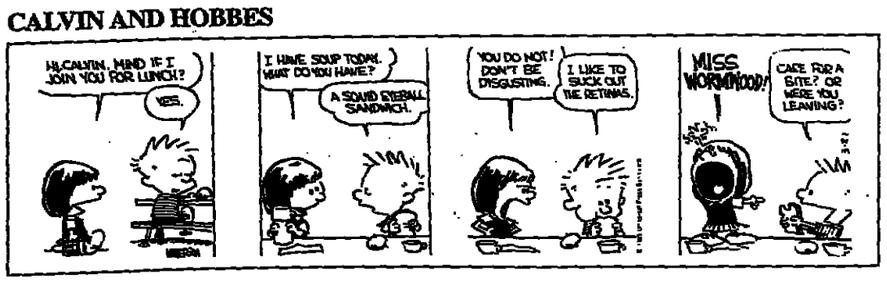


CALVIN AND HOBBES



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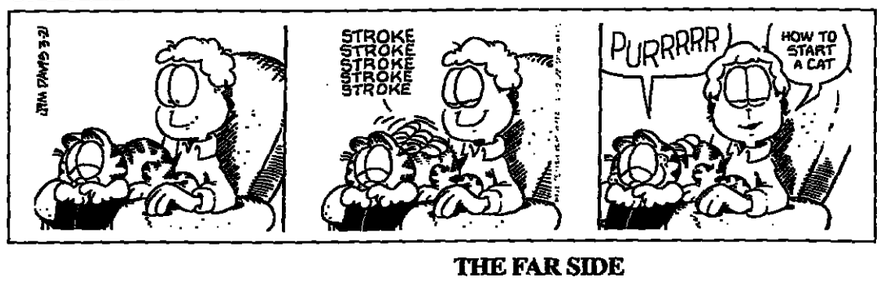
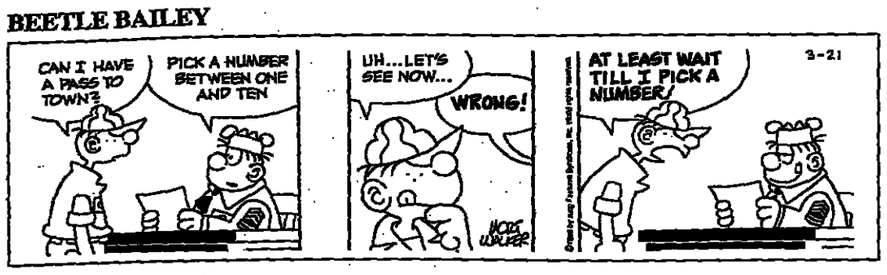
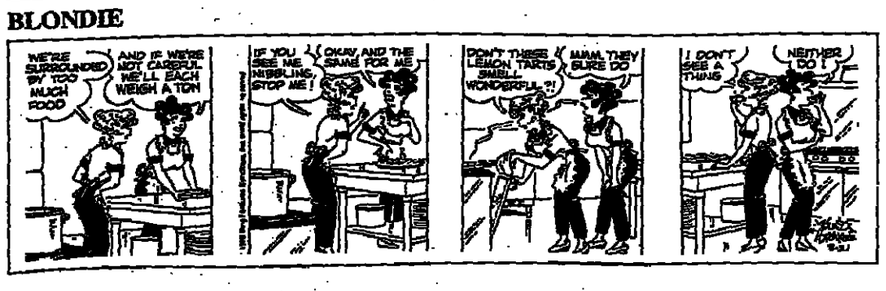


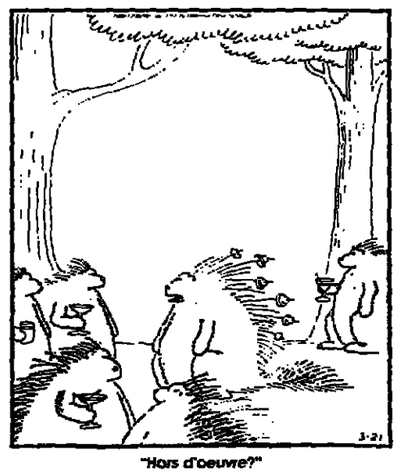
BEETLE BAILEY



BLONDIE



THE FAR SIDE



"Hors d'oeuvre?"

JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Mike Argirion

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

ILVIC

HOOPT

BIGTLE

DENORM

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer here: ( ) ( ) ( ) ( )

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: COUGH DUCAT YELLOW GRIMLY
Answer: What some watchmakers are paid — AN "HOURLY" WAGE

ART BUCHWALD

Republican Fun

WASHINGTON — After watching the primaries I have decided the Republicans are a lot more fun than anybody. They're for cigarette smoking and also the right to life. To make things even more confusing, they're against gun control but for prayers in school. To be a Republican you can now have the best of all worlds and Pat Buchanan, too.

Buchwald

The party's support of cigarette smoking doesn't surprise me because the tobacco industry is one of the biggest contributors to political campaigns, and what candidate would dare refuse to take money from the Marlboro Man? Republicans are for free choice except when it comes to rape and incest and Lucky Strikes.

The GOP is sensitive when you raise the right-to-life and gun ownership topics together.

The reason why the Republicans will fight to the death any laws that prevent people from buying guns is that the Republicans are so much better shots than the Democrats.

For example, if you put one member of each party on a rifle range and have them shoot at a negative TV commercial, the Republican will hit a bull's-eye every time. The Democrat can't hit the side of a TV screen.

□

When it comes to the right to life, GOPers prefer guns and liberal Democrats believe in butter. But the main reason the Republicans oppose a waiting period to purchase guns is that the National Rifle Association has even more money to give the party than the tobacco industry.

The butter people say that between tobacco and guns the Republicans could wipe out half the population.

But the leaders of the elephant party say those casualties can be replaced by the babies they save once their candidate is elected president.

□

The questions are: Do the tobacco people want anything in exchange for giving money to the GOP? And what does the NRA expect for its donations?

If you believe the chairman of the Republican Party, when giving money neither lobby expects a legislative favor from Congress. The contributions are made solely to guarantee that America will have a better government, a balanced budget and Pat Robertson conducting his TV show from the White House.

Grammy Awards Show Will Return to New York

New York Times Service

NEW YORK — The National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences announced Wednesday that the Grammy Awards will return to New York next March after two years at the Shrine Auditorium in Los Angeles.

Past Grammy ceremonies in New York took place at the 6,000-seat Radio City Music Hall, but next year's event will be held at Madison Square Garden, which can accommodate 20,000 people, making the 1997 Grammy Awards ceremony the biggest ever. The Shrine Auditorium in Los Angeles seats 6,300.

Suzanne Farrell: Tending the Balanchine Flame

By Dinitia Smith
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — "I almost never go to the ballet," Suzanne Farrell said. She had just been asked her opinion of her old company, the New York City Ballet. But Farrell would not be drawn into a discussion of it, and who could blame her?

Farrell was dismissed from the City Ballet in 1993 by its artistic director, and her old dance partner, Peter Martins, but the dance world has never completely tired of debating which of the two best represents the legacy of George Balanchine, the City Ballet's cofounder. Such talk picked up again last October, when Farrell staged seven Balanchine ballets at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington to critical acclaim and nearly sold-out audiences.

The New Yorker dance critic Arlene Croce wrote that month that many thought Farrell should be the artistic director of the New York City Ballet. Since the October performances there has also been considerable speculation about the possibility that Farrell might start her own company, but she has said she does not want to talk about that either. She acknowledges, though, that "the more I'm doing the better I am" and that "if having a company means I can do better work," she will consider it.

Farrell was sitting in a restaurant near her home on the Upper West Side. Her face was pale; Balanchine used to call her "my alabaster princess." Farrell's gray eyes are large and round. She wears her hair in a long and youthful fashion, though she is 50.

She has not danced seriously since she retired in 1989, and she has had two hip replacements because of arthritis. But her arms are still muscled, and she gestures with the fluid movements that are ingrained in professional dancers.

Farrell is married to dancer Paul Mejia, the director of the Fort Worth (Texas) Ballet. For the last six years, she has traveled to the Kirov Ballet in St. Petersburg; the Royal Danish Ballet; the Paris Opéra Ballet, and other places, coaching dancers and staging Balanchine ballets for the Balanchine Trust, an organization separate from the New York City Ballet, which was established in 1987 by two former Balanchiine associates to oversee the leasing and staging of Balanchine's work.

Next month, Farrell plans to coach dancers from the Cincinnati Ballet, in her hometown, in Balanchine's "Scotch Symphony," "Four Temperaments" and "Theme and Variations." They are to be performed there on April 19 and 20. She plans to coach "Mozartiana" with the Birmingham Ballet, in England, a ballet she has already staged for the dancers. In September, in Cincinnati, she will coach a full-length "Jewels" and stage, or direct, her role in "Diamonds." Those ballets are to be performed in October.

Though Balanchine has been dead for 13 years, Farrell says she still "speaks" to her mentor almost as if he were still alive. "When he died, I spoke to him in terms of the fact he was no longer here," she said. "It was very sad. Now that I'm teaching, he seems so much more alive." Balanchine choreographed many of his ballets especially for Farrell, including "Mozartiana." But "I don't want the ballets to be images of me, or reincarnations of me," Farrell said. "I want the dancers to be free," she added.

In 1994, when Farrell staged "Mozartiana" at the Pacific Northwest Ballet in Seattle, "Suzanne was able to put aside herself being in a ballet, and get down to helping our dancers," said Francia Russell, a director of the company and a former New York City Ballet dancer. "Some dancers can't turn their back on the mirror. Suzanne has been very successful at it."

Still, Farrell has brought a powerful historical insight into her staging of Balanchine. For instance, when Balanchine staged "Agon," he frequently changed passages in the musically complex finale. Balanchine would sometimes simplify it to make it easier for the dancers. "Instead of having eight dancers on eight individual counts," Farrell said, "he'd have four couples, and have them each take two counts. I went up to Mr. B. and said, 'I'm sorry you have to simplify that; we're supposed to be better than that.'"

When Farrell staged "Agon" herself, with the Miami City and the Cincinnati Ballet, she gave the dancers the eight counts.

There have been few teacher-student relationships quite like the one Farrell had with Balanchine. She arrived in New York from Cincinnati, in 1960, at the age of 15, a newly minted student at the School of American Ballet. Her parents were divorced, and her mother worked nights to support her. Farrell fell under Balanchine's spell, though "Mr. Balanchine was never my father," she said, sharply. But he was in many ways her Svengali, while she was his muse. When she married Mejia, Balanchine, in effect, forced both her and Mejia from the company.

The couple went to live in Brussels, where Farrell danced with Maurice Bejart. But in 1975, s returned to the New York City B ler. Then, when Balanchine d Martins was chosen as co-d of the company along with Jero Robbins. Farrell retired in 1989, was a difficult transition. "Nothi really prepares you for being an e ballerina," she said.

For a time, Martins kept Farre on salary, reportedly $30,000 year. Then in 1993, an article wri ten by David Daniel, a friend c Farrell's, appeared in The Ne Yorker. While Farrell was nc quoted directly as complainin about her role in the New York Cit Ballet, the article seemed to be criticism of the company and Mar tins. After the article was pub lished, Martins dismissed her.

The dismissal caused a storm i the dance world. Martins refuse repeated requests to be interviewed about Farrell. But in a 1988 interview, he said: "Many people have yet to accept that Balanchine is gone. I think it's extremely narrow-minded to constantly refer to the past."

Today, Farrell leads a quiet, almost reclusive life in New York with her poodle, Tex. She serves on the advisory panel of the Princess Grace Foundation, which awards scholarships to young dancers. She is on the senior advisory board of the Arthritis Foundation. In the summer, she goes to her ballet camp in the Adirondacks, where she trains young dancers.

She spends many months of the year apart from her husband, but Farrell has said that she is happy to see his career flourishing.

"My work — ballet and Mr. Balanchine — are my focus, my mission," said Farrell. "The more alive I am in my work, the more he is. We were amazingly close. We had a relationship most people never have with anybody; it is not just an assumption of ego on my part. I knew his verbal thoughts, his silent thoughts. There was a lot going on between us that was silent: It was ballet. It was music. It was destiny."

Carol Frost

Suzanne Farrell rehearsing with Hagop Kharatian in October.

WEATHER

Europe

	Today High	Today Low/W	Tomorrow High	Tomorrow Low/W
	C/F	C/F	C/F	C/F
Algarve	17/62	10/55 c	20/68	14/57 pc
Amsterdam	9/48	5/41 pc	9/48	4/39 r
Ankara	13/55	1/34 sh	14/57	1/34 sh
Athens	12/53	9/48 sh	13/55	8/46 r
Barcelona	18/61	9/46 c	17/62	11/52 pc
Belgrade	9/48	1/34 c	12/55	2/36 c
Berlin	11/52	1/34 pc	12/53	1/34 s
Brussels	11/52	7/44 r	10/50	4/39 sh
Budapest	8/46	-1/31 pc	9/48	2/35 pc
Copenhagen	6/43	1/34 pc	6/43	0/32 pc
Costa Del Sol	17/62	13/55 c	19/66	14/57 pc
Dublin	8/46	2/36 c	7/44	1/34 c
Edinburgh	6/43	4/39 r	7/44	3/37 r
Florence	12/53	7/44 pc	12/53	6/43 r
Frankfurt	11/52	-1/31 s	12/53	1/34 s
Geneva	10/50	6/43 sh	9/48	3/37 r
Helsinki	3/35	-7/20 s	1/34	-6/22 s
Istanbul	9/46	3/37 pc	11/52	3/37 pc
Las Palmas	21/70	16/61 pc	23/73	17/62 s
Lisbon	15/59	12/53 c	17/62	12/53 c
London	10/50	6/43 r	9/48	4/39 r
Madrid	16/61	6/43 c	19/66	9/48 c
Milan	12/53	8/46 sh	14/57	5/41 t
Moscow	3/37	-5/22 s	4/39	-5/24 s
Munich	11/52	4/39 pc	10/50	1/34 r
Nice	12/53	8/46 r	15/59	8/46 pc
Oslo	4/39	-5/24 pc	4/39	-3/27 pc
Mallorca	16/61	11/52 c	19/61	13/55 pc
Paris	11/52	7/44 r	12/53	5/41 t
Prague	10/50	-2/28 s	9/48	0/32 pc
Reykjavik	6/43	-2/28 s	6/43	1/34 c
Rome	13/55	8/43 pc	13/55	6/43 r
St. Petersburg	4/39	-7/20 s	3/37	-6/22 s
Stockholm	6/43	-3/27 s	4/39	-2/29 s
Strasbourg	13/55	6/43 r	11/52	3/37 sh
Tallinn	1/34	-7/20 s	0/32	-5/22 s
Venice	11/52	8/46 c	12/53	7/44 sh
Vienna	9/48	0/32 pc	9/48	2/35 pc
Warsaw	7/44	-4/25 s	7/44	-3/27 s
Zurich	13/55	7/44 r	12/53	3/37 sh

Oceania

Auckland	23/73	15/59 pc	22/71	15/59 pc
Sydney	25/77	17/62 s	25/77	17/62 pc

Forecast for Friday through Sunday, as provided by AccuWeather.

North America
Cold, windy weather will prevail from Boston to Washington, D.C., and west to Toronto. Showers of rain and snow are likely Friday with drying over the weekend. Portland, Seattle and Vancouver will have rain Friday. Snow will reach Denver by Sunday, while rain spreads to Chicago.

Europe
Rain is likely in London Friday and Saturday, but Paris will be mainly dry and mild. Warm, mainly dry, weather is likely in Madrid and Lisbon. Rome will also be mainly dry, though cool. There will be some rain in Amsterdam and Copenhagen, and rain or snow in Stockholm.

Asia
Rain will dampen South Korea and southern sections of Japan on Friday and again on Sunday. Snow may fall in or near Beijing. Shanghai will have bouts of rain while Hong Kong is warm and humid with a couple of showers. Singapore will be partly sunny, hot and humid each day.

Middle East

	Today High	Today Low/W	Tomorrow High	Tomorrow Low/W
	C/F	C/F	C/F	C/F
Abu Dhabi	29/82	22/71 s	29/84	22/71 c
Beirut	15/59	13/55 r	17/62	11/52 t
Cairo	18/64	8/46 pc	17/62	6/43 pc
Damascus	10/50	0/43 c	13/55	4/39 pc
Jerusalem	13/55	8/46 c	15/59	7/44 c
Kuwait	23/73	11/52 s	27/80	4/39 s
Riyadh	29/84	21/70 pc	33/99	19/66 t

Asia

	Today High	Today Low/W	Tomorrow High	Tomorrow Low/W
	C/F	C/F	C/F	C/F
Bangkok	34/93	26/79 pc	35/95	26/79 pc
Beijing	13/55	3/37 r	17/62	7/44 pc
Hong Kong	22/71	18/64 c	22/71	18/64 pc
Manila	32/89	24/75 pc	32/89	24/75 pc
New Delhi	32/89	18/64 pc	31/88	14/57 pc
Seoul	13/55	3/37 s	11/52	6/43 c
Shanghai	13/55	10/55 r	16/61	12/53 t
Singapore	31/88	25/77 pc	32/89	24/75 pc
Taipei	24/75	18/64 c	26/79	18/64 pc
Tokyo	13/55	4/39 s	14/57	6/43 pc

Latin America

Buenos Aires	30/86	22/71 pc	29/84	21/70 pc
Caracas	28/84	19/66 pc	29/84	18/64 pc
Lima	24/75	20/68 r	26/79	21/70 pc
Mexico City	24/75	9/48 pc	25/77	9/43 pc
Rio de Janeiro	28/84	23/73 pc	28/84	24/75 pc
Santiago	28/78	16/61 pc	28/79	15/59 pc

North America

Anchorage	4/39	-11/13 s	1/34	-9/16 pc
Atlanta	4/39	-2/28 sf	9/48	2/36 pc
Boston	7/44	1/34 r	8/43	1/34 sf
Chicago	-1/31	-6/22 c	0/32	-4/25 pc
Denver	18/61	-1/31 s	18/64	4/39 s
Detroit	1/34	-9/22 an	1/34	-3/28 pc
Honolulu	27/80	18/64 pc	27/80	19/66 pc
Houston	15/59	1/34 s	20/68	8/46 s
Los Angeles	28/79	11/52 pc	23/73	11/52 pc
Miami	22/71	8/41 s	23/73	13/55 pc
Minneapolis	-3/27	-8/18 pc	4/39	-3/27 pc
Montreal	2/35	-4/25 an	0/32	-4/25 an
Nassau	25/77	18/64 pc	26/79	18/66 pc
New York	9/48	2/35 r	6/43	1/34 pc
Phoenix	33/91	19/61 s	32/89	16/61 s
San Fran.	22/71	9/48 s	19/66	8/46 pc
Seattle	13/55	4/39 c	13/55	4/39 r
Toronto	3/35	-2/28 an	-1/31	-1/31 sf
Vancouver	12/53	5/41 sh	12/53	4/39 r
Washington	9/48	1/34 r	7/44	0/32 pc

Africa

	Today High	Today Low/W	Tomorrow High	Tomorrow Low/W
	C/F	C/F	C/F	C/F
Algiers	17/63	14/57 pc	18/66	14/57 pc
Cape Town	28/78	18/64 s	31/88	18/64 s
Casablanca	19/66	12/53 pc	21/70	13/55 pc
Harare	21/70	11/52 pc	27/80	11/52 s
Lagos	31/88	26/79 pc	32/89	27/80 pc
Nairobi	21/70	13/55 t	21/70	14/57 t
Tunis	19/66	9/48 pc	19/66	11/52 t

Legends: s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, Hca, W-Weather. All maps, forecasts and data provided by AccuWeather, Inc. © 1996

WEEKEND SKI REPORT

Resort	Depth L	Depth U	Mtn. Pistes	Res. Pistes	Snow Surface	Last Snow	Comments
Andorra							
Pas de la Casa	165	260	Good	Open	Var	16/3	*fully open, enjoyable piste skiing*
Soldeu	110	240	Good	Open	Var	16/3	*fully open, lovely skiing all levels*
Austria							
Ischgl	20	55	Good	Open	Pckd	11/3	*41 lifts open, most runs great shape*
Hintertux	20	200	Good	Open	Var	12/3	*18 lifts open, good piste skiing*
Kitzbuhel	5	100	Fair	Open	Var	12/3	*54 lifts, all but lowest runs good*
Lech	60	90	Fair	Open	spring	12/3	*34 lifts, good above mid-station*
Obergurgl	30	80	Good	Open	heavy	12/3	*22 lifts open, great pste ski high up*
Saalbach	45	60	Hard	Open	Var	12/3	*63 lifts, all but lowest runs good*
Schladming	50	90	Good	Open	spring	12/3	*all lifts open, enjoyable spring skiing*
St. Anton	55	180	Fair	Open	spring	11/3	*all lifts open, n.Facing slopes good*
Canada							
Lake Louise	130	175	Good	Open	Var	20/3	*12 lifts, most pistes in great shape*
Whistler	40	320	Good	Open	spring	17/3	*25/26 lifts open, typical spring skiing*
France							
Alpe d'Huez	95	290	Good	Open	spring	17/3	*71/82 lifts open, great above 2000m*
Avoriaz	120	150	Good	worn	spring	17/3	*42 lifts open, enjoyable at altitude*
Chamonix	40	240	Good	worn	Var	18/3	*n.Facing slopes in good condition*
Courchevel	25	95	Good	Open	Var	17/3	*all lifts open, heavy lower runs p.m.*
Les Deux Alpes	45	305	Good	Open	Var	18/3	*83 lifts open, 160cm snow at 2100m*
Meribel	40	90	Fair	Open	spring	18/3	*57 lifts open, patchy below mottaret*
La Plagne	100	170	Good	Open	Var	18/3	*104 lifts, most good, odd worn area*
Tignes	105	190	Good	Open	Var	17/3	*48 lifts open, great ski above 2000m*
Val d'Isère	85	130	Good	Open	Var	17/3	*46 lifts, all but lowest runs good*
Val Thorens	55	200	Good	Open	Var	17/3	*fully open, great piste throughout*
Germany							
Berchtesgaden	10	90	Fair	Closed	Pckd	12/3	*15 lifts, becoming worn low down*
Garmisch	15	200	Good	Open	Var	12/3	*34 lifts open, some great ski high up*
Italy							
Bormio	40	140	Good	Open	Pckd	17/3	*15/16 lifts, enjoyable spring skiing*
Cervinia	150	375	Good	Open	Var	17/3	*all 25 lifts open, great though milder*
Cortina	15	75	Fair	Open	Pckd	19/2	*most lifts open, best in a.m. high up*
Courmayeur	40	170	Good	Closed	Pckd	17/3	*23 lifts, all but lowest runs good*
Livigno	50	80	Fair	Open	Hard	19/2	*30 lifts, most good, odd icy patch*
Norway							
Geilo	50	50	Fair	Open	Pckd	15/3	*18 lifts open, 127km of x-country ski*
Spain							
La Molina	85	260	Good	Open	Var	16/3	*9/11 lifts open, great all over*
Switzerland							
Champery	0	120	Fair	Closed	spring	22/2	*all lifts open, poor below mid-station*
Crans Montana	10	215	Fair	Open	Var	16/3	*41 lifts, n.Facing slopes enjoyable*
Davos	25	115	Fair	Open	Var	12/3	*all 55 lifts open, well-groomed pistes*
Grindelwald	10	60	Fair	Open	spring	12/3	*all open, good above mid-station*
Klosters	5	85	Fair	Open	heavy	12/3	*55 lifts, pistes good above 2000m*
St. Moritz	15	70	Fair	Open	Pckd	20/2	*all 24 lifts open, upper runs still pk*
Verbier	10	130	Fair	Open	Var	17/3	*35/39 lifts open, best ski in morning*
Wengen	30	45	Fair	Open	Var	18/3	*23 lifts open, reasonable ski high up*
Zermatt	20	270	Good	Open	Var	18/3	*33/37 lifts open, plenty of good ski*
U.S.							
Breckenridge	245	390	Good	Open	Pwdr	19/3	*17 lifts open, great cover throughout*
Crested Butte	170	295	Good	Open	Var	18/3	*all lifts open, good ski at all levels*
Keystone	225	265	Good	Open	Pckd	19/3	*16 lifts open, fresh snowfall forecast*
Heavenly	155	270	Good	Open	Var	17/3	*23 lifts open, enjoyable spring skiing*
Park City	235	265	Good	Open	Var	18/3	*all 14 lifts and 89 runs open, superb*
Telluride	175	180	Good	Open	Var	17/3	*all 10 lifts open, good skiing*
Vail	205	275	Good	Open	Var	17/3	*28 lifts open, great skiing all levels*

Key: L,U: Depth in cm on lower and upper slopes. Mtn. Pistes Mountainside pistes. Res. Pistes Runs leading to resort village. Art. Artificial snow.

Reports supplied by the Ski Club of Great Britain.

PEOPLE

THE American astronaut **Shannon Lucid** faces more than science duties in her visit to the Mir space station. General **Yuri Glazkov**, deputy commander of the Gagarin Cosmonaut Training Center, said Lucid would brighten Mir during her five-month stay and that her male crew mates would be on their best behavior. "The side effect we anticipate is that the fans will be taken care of in a more timely manner, because we know that women love to clean," Glazkov said at a news conference held by NASA. Lucid, due to leave for Mir on Thursday aboard shuttle Atlantis, will be only the third woman — and first American woman — to live on the 10-year-old space station. She said she never felt any discrimination during a year at the cosmonaut training center. "Maybe I'm just not perceiving things," she said, "but I don't have anything to complain about."

□

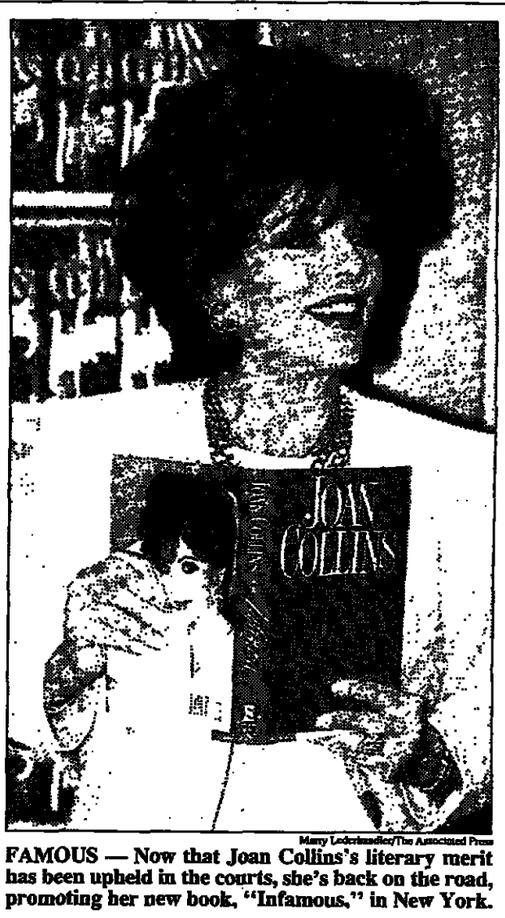
Luciano Pavarotti and his manager-wife, **Adua**, have agreed to separate after 35 years of marriage, Mrs. Pavarotti's lawyer said Wednesday. Last month, an Italian gossip magazine, Chi, published photos of the 60-year-old tenor and his 26-year-old secretary, **Nicoletta Mantovani**, as they cavorted on a Barbados beach, walking arm-in-arm and kissing.

□

The makers of "Philadelphia" have acknowledged that the movie was partly based on a man who was fired from his law firm after developing AIDS. The admission ended a five-day trial and settled a lawsuit brought by the man's family. The Medford, Massachusetts, family claimed that TriStar Pictures Inc. made the movie based on the life of **Geoffrey Francis Bowers** and that the Bowers family was paid nothing. The terms of the settlement were not disclosed. The defendants included the director, **Jonathan Demme**, and writer, **Ron Nyswaner**.

□

King Carl XVI Gustaf's favorite expression is "bubbelibubb," he likes dates with butter on them, he doodles incessantly during meetings and is a grump in the morning, according to a new book on the Swedish monarch. **Lena Rainer**, a Swedish journalist, has written a tell-all book on the popular king, who turns 50 on April 30. The author interviewed six of the monarch's closest friends, old flames, schoolmates, politicians and hunting buddies, their insights revealing, among other things, the royal penchant for "bubbelibubb," a nonsense word.



Marty Lederhandler/The Associated Press

FAMOUS — Now that Joan Collins's literary merit has been upheld in the courts, she's back on the road, promoting her new book, "Infamous," in New York.

The king, who was said to be a playboy until he married **Queen Silvia** in 1976, is well-liked by Swedes, who feel he has settled well into the role of a distinguished and discrete king.

□

A beer-loving Japanese explorer was to have set off Wednesday from Salinas, Ecuador, to cross the Pacific alone on a sun-powered boat made of recycled aluminum cans. If all goes according to plan, **Kenichi Horie**, 56, and his craft, the Malt's Mermaid, will complete the 16,000 kilometers (9,900 miles) to Tokyo on July 20. Horie will be carrying a two-burner propane gas stove for cooking rice, making coffee and warming canned food. And most important, he says, his tiny refrigerator will chill two cans of beer at a time. He has a supply of 120 cans — one for each day of the trip.

□

Alec Baldwin testified in a court in Los Angeles that he was defending his wife, **Kim Basinger**, and their newborn daughter when he scuffled with a photographer trying to videotape them coming home from the hospital. The actor said he didn't know whether the photographer, **Alan Zanger**, was a journalist "or someone there to stalk my family." Baldwin faces up to six months in jail and a $1,000 fine if convicted of misdemeanor battery.

□

Susan Sarandon has donated $10,000 to the William Moses Kunstler Fund for Racial Justice, established as a memorial to the late civil rights lawyer. She earned the money last week for speaking at Loyola University in New Orleans, where she appeared with **Sister Helen Prejean**, the nun she plays in the movie "Dead Man Walking."

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EUROPE

Armenia*†	8014111
Austria*†††	022-903-011
Belgium*	0-800-100-10
Bosnia†	00-800-0010
Bulgaria◆	00-800-0010
Croatia◆	99-385-0111
Czech Republic*	00-42-000-101
Denmark	8001-0010
Finland *	9800-100-10
France	19-0011
Germany	0130-0010
Greece*	00-800-1311
Hungary*	000800-01111
Iceland*	800 9001
Ireland	1-800-550-000
Italy*	172-1011
Lithuania◆	80196
Luxembourg	0-800-0111
Macedonia, F.Y.R.*†††	99-800-4288
Monaco*	19-0011
Netherlands*	06-022-9111
Norway	800-190-11
Poland†*	00-0-800-111-1111
Portugal†	05017-1-288
Romania*	01-800-4288
Russia*† (Moscow)	155-5042
Slovak Rep.*†	00-42-000-101
Spain*	900-99-00-11
Sweden	020-795-611
Switzerland*	0-800-550011
Turkey*	00-800-12277
Ukraine†	80100-11
United Kingdom	0500-89-0011

MIDDLE EAST

Bahrain ■	800-001
Cyprus* ■	080-90010
Egypt* (Cairo)†	510-0200
Israel	177-100-2727
Jordan ■	16 800 000
Kuwait ■	800-288
Lebanon (Beirut)*†† ■	426-801
Qatar ■	0800-011-77
Saudi Arabia ■	1-800-10
Syria	0-801
U. Arab Emirates* ■	800-121

AFRICA

Gabon*	080-001
Gambia*	00111
Ghana	0191
Ivory Coast*	05-111-11
Kenya†	0800-10
Liberia	797-797
Morocco ■	002-11-0011
Sierra Leone	1100
South Africa	0-800-99-0123
Zambia◆	00-899
Zimbabwe†	110-899

AMERICAS

Argentina◆	001-800-200-1111
Bolivia*	0-800-1112
Brazil	000-8010
Canada ■	1-800-225-5288
Chile	800-800-311
Colombia	980-11-0010
Costa Rica* ■	0-800-0-114-114
Ecuador*	999-119
El Salvador†††	800-1785
Guatemala†††	190
Mexico ○○○ ■	95-800-462-4240
Nicaragua◆	174
Panama ■*	109
Peru† ■	171
Venezuela* ■	800-11-120

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